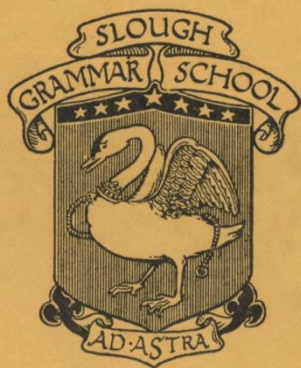


THE SWAN



JULY, 1954 - No. 20

THE SWAN

The Magazine of Slough Grammar School

No. 20

July, 1954

The Editorial

(with acknowledgements to I.J., 'The Swan' 1953)

1. NOW there came one from among the elders of the staff unto the sons of Art and asked them, saying, "My sons, the time of the Swan is upon us and we are sore pressed for editors. Doth it seem fitting unto thee that thou shouldest edit 'The Swan' for 1954, as t'were?"
2. And the sons of Art answered unto him, saying, "O all-wise elder from among the staff, it is sufficient unto us that thou shouldest wish it so." And they communed among themselves and were filled with visions of manuscript even unto the height of the sky.
3. But, lo, they were deceived. For the appointed hour drew near and their spirits sank within them at the sign of the empty file.
4. And they turned unto the elder of the staff in their misery and cried unto him, saying, "Our spirits sink within us, for, lo, they answer not our plea."
5. And he inclined his ear unto them and saith, "Is that so?"
6. And he waxed keen, even as the dogs upon the prey.
7. And his effect was noticeable.
8. And the sons of Art grew lighter of heart and set themselves diligently at their task.
9. And one of the sons of Art turned unto the contributors and cried unto them with a loud voice, "We render thanks for all thine help unto us. Perchance, thy work is not here. Yet still we offer thee our thanks and beg thee that thy spirit shouldest not sink."
10. And the keeper of the file turned and rebuked the indolent, rending his garments and crying,
11. "Wherefore hast thou not done thy part? Is not this thy magazine? Behold, some have worked even unto the breaking of day, and are not of this School." And he turned his face to the wall and wept.
12. And the third son of Art turned and comforted him, saying, "Be of good cheer, perhaps they will do better next year."
13. And the keeper of the file was cheered of heart and turned again unto his task and found in it happiness and some pride, if not entire satisfaction.
14. And they all agreed that, although not superstitious, they should have a fourteenth verse.

THE SONS OF ART

W. J. SIMMONS R. A. GLANVILLE J. C. LEWIS

School Notes

IN SEPTEMBER we welcomed four new members to the teaching staff. Mr. K. F. Colombo took charge of the Biology Department in place of Mr. T. Anderson, whose retirement was reported in the last issue.

Mr. B. A. A. Knight has joined the History Department; Mr. L. J. C. Monk the Maths. Department; and Mr. G. F. Sonnex has begun the teaching of German in the School.

Mrs. Hazelwood left at the end of the summer holidays to take up work in London, after serving the School most loyally for some eight years.

In her place as School Secretary we were pleased to welcome Mrs. Kemp, who has quickly interested herself in the many aspects of School activities.

At Easter, Mr. I. M. P. Millar left us to take up a post in Hertfordshire as Senior English Master in a Secondary Modern School. We were sorry that his last term here was for him so beset by serious illness.

We were fortunate in obtaining for the summer term the much appreciated help in the English Department of Mr. B. Greenslade, formerly of Makerere College, East Africa, and newly appointed to the academic staff in the English Department at University College, London.

M. Jacques Lautaud, from Aix-en-Provence, has taken a full share in School activities during his year with us as French Assistant, besides judging the French Declamation competition, and joining in the Easter Lakeland trip. He returns to France with our thanks and good wishes.

Congratulations to J. D. Killip, who was awarded a State Scholarship last September on the result of the G.C.E. examination. He is at present an undergraduate of Bristol University.

Special distinction was brought to the School by B. J. Climer, who gained an Open Award at the Imperial College of Science, London, by winning a Royal Scholarship in Chemistry. He enters College next October to read Physics.

The School enjoyed very much a song recital given on Tuesday, September 15th, by Mrs. R. Klemperer, whose sons were formerly pupils here. Her programme included French and German songs, and we thank her for the pleasure she afforded us.

On October 15th, a School party went to Hammersmith to see a production of *Hamlet*.

Two Road Safety talks have been given to the School by an officer of the local Police Force, one in October and the second in April. A pleasing number of junior boys have passed the Cyclist Road Safety tests.

In the French Declamation competition held in December, and adjudicated by M. Lautaud, J. Little, of Form 5L, and J. Barker, of 3A, were awarded prizes.

The School was represented in the Choir and congregation at the Youth Service held on Sunday, March 14th, to commemorate the 150th year of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

By kind invitation of the Head Master of Eton College, on March 11th a party of Sixth-formers was able to enjoy a performance of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* given by La Troupe Française of L'Institut Français.

At the end of March, three members of the Upper Sixth went to Dale Fort Centre, Pembrokeshire, for a Field Course in Biology, where they joined with University students in practical exercises.

On Monday, April 5th, members of the Fifth Forms saw the film *Julius Caesar*.

G. Turnbull, an Officer Cadet at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, is now in his senior term, and passes out this summer.

We congratulate W. A. F. Morgan on obtaining a cadetship at R.M.A., Sandhurst, for next September.

The School has been represented at three Orchestral courses held at Shortenalls in December, February, and April.

The S.C.M. in schools held a one-day conference at Wycombe Grammar School on Friday, May 7th, with subject "By What Authority?" A party of 21 from our Sixth Form attended.

In March, a group from the Sixth Form attended a week's conference at Shortenalls for students proceeding to Universities next October.

Once again we sent representatives to the C.E.W.C. conference during the Christmas Holidays. Our party of twelve was larger than hitherto.

Congratulations again to Mr. A. D. Purvis and his company of players for their production of Bernard Shaw's *Androcles and the Lion* in early December.

A pleasing addition on that occasion was the appearance of a small string orchestra, playing interval music under Mr. W. Hampshire's direction.

Special lectures on weather forecasting, arranged by the Royal Meteorological Society at its Headquarters in London, were attended by eight members of our Sixth Form.

It is pleasing to record that, on the results of tests at Bulford Camp, arranged by Southern Command, Cadet A. G. Stroud passed the classification course in signalling, and C.S.M. S. F. Holness gained Instructor's qualifications and received special commendation from the Officer Commanding.

A large party of this Easter's Lakeland trip enjoyed extraordinarily good weather and completed a good programme of Fell walking and visits.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of *The Windsorian* and the *Wycombien-sian*.



Obituary Notices

The School sustained the loss of a loyal and staunch friend by the sudden death during the Easter holidays of Mr. C. Ford, a Governor of the School and father of four former members. We express our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Ford in her sad bereavement.

It was with great regret that news was received of the sudden death during the Spring Term of Mr. C. A. Payne, for many years our Assistant caretaker.

As we go to press, the sad news has come of the sudden death of Alderman John Taylor, Governor of this School and Officer in the Divisional and County Education Committees. In him we lose a great friend and champion of sound Christian education. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family in their bereavement.

Speech Day 1953

OUR SPEECH DAY was held on the 9th December in the Central Hall. When the Chairman, Alderman A. E. Ward, had welcomed parents and other guests, the boys sang *Veni, Sancte Spiritus*. Then followed the Headmaster's report, in which Dr. Long drew attention to the value of a Sixth Form course in a Grammar school. He said that there is a growing demand from the professions, industry and commerce for young men with advanced qualifications, but that there is also a demand for the richer qualities of integrity, personality and generous service, which are fostered by the discipline and study of the Grammar school and its Sixth Form. He reported a total of 63 boys in our Sixth Form, compared with 46 last year, while there are more than 25 boys from Slough at Oxford, Cambridge, London, Bristol, Birmingham, and Southampton Universities. Of D. Hamblen, last year's Head Boy, and W. Creighton, his deputy, Dr. Long said they had served the School with affection and with zeal and had set a standard which can only be emulated and rarely surpassed.

Having made the presentation of awards, Viscount Curzon said, in his address to the boys, that this country needs more good schools for good results. He went on to point out the real value of a school to the student by saying that there is a tendency today to sneer at the "old school tie". The school tie, he reminded us, is not worn out of a sense of snobbishness, but as a mark of gratitude and loyalty to the school that started the wearer on his way through life.

The Head Boy proposed a vote of thanks to Viscount Curzon, and the Deputy Head Boy seconded it. The two-part choir then sang *The Blacksmith*, by Mozart, and *Five Eyes*, by C. Armstrong Gibbs, after which the four-part choir sang *Come, let's be merry* and *Heracles*, by C. V. Stanford, and *Fair as the morn*, by Brahms.

AWARDS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st JULY, 1953

Form

- IIC Watts, B. K. R. (1st in Form); Willatts, R. J. (2nd in Form); Wood, B. J. (3rd in Form).
 IIB Mason, V. (1st in Form); Jervis, A. F. (2nd in Form); Hart, P. J. (3rd in Form).
 IIA Deuchar, A. B. M. (1st in Form); Evans, C. C. (2nd in Form).
 IIIC Hannam, R. J. (1st in Form); Cook, M. D. (2nd in Form); Hale, C. (3rd in Form).
 IIIB Enterkin, H. (1st in Form); Williams, D. T. (2nd in Form); Bamberough, J. C. (3rd in Form).
 IIIA Ross, D. (1st in Form); Hudson, A. (2nd in Form); Odell, B. (3rd in Form).
 IVc Tunbridge, D. E. L. (1st in Form); Wetton, P. C. (2nd in Form).
 IVB Willis, J. D. (1st in Form); Grier, R. (2nd in Form); Butler, K. F. (3rd in Form).
 IVA Wheeler, P. C. (1st in Form); Duerden, K. G. (2nd in Form); Spooner, D. C. (3rd in Form).
 L.Vc Reade, A. (1st in Form); Parkes, G. (2nd in Form); Lovegrove, R. G. (3rd in Form).
 L.VB Greenfield, R. A. (1st in Form); Daly, D. J. (2nd in Form); Brent, M. (3rd in Form).
 L.VA Morgan, J. E. (1st in Form); Ball, K. F., and Harpley, F. W. (2nd in Form).
 L.VI Gale, R. (Games Captain); Goldfine, L. J. (Form Prize); Ackrell, B. A. (Form Prize).

UPPER FIFTH FORMS

[On results in Oxford General Certificates of Education (Ordinary Level)]

- Burden, P. (Latin, Biology, 9 subjects).
 Clarke, D. G. (French, 7 subjects).
 Cleverley, B. (Progress, 10 subjects).
 Fleetwood, G. A. (History, 9 subjects).
 Garner, B. J. (10 subjects and Form Prize).
 Guest, D. W. (English Language, 9 subjects).
 Hill, I. G. (10 subjects).
 Jordon, J. (General Science, 5 subjects).
 Miles, D. (General Science, 7 subjects).
 Scott, R. G. (Mathematics, 8 subjects).
 Simmons, I. G. (Geography, 10 subjects, Form Prize).
 Thurgood, M. C. (Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, 9 subjects).
 Tulip, A. (Chemistry, 7 subjects).
 Turner, J. C. (English Literature, 9 subjects).
 Wallner, E. (English Language, 9 subjects and Form Prize).

Certificates

- 10 subjects: Cleverley, B.; Garner, B. J.; Hill, B. H.; Simmons, I. G.
 9 subjects: Anderson, P. H.; Barnes, F. B.; Barnes, J. H.; Burden, P.; Fleetwood, G. A.; Giles, C. G.; Glanville, L. C.; Guest, D. W.; Jones, A. P.; Mansfield, J. R.; Painter, A. S.; Phillips, H. L.; Reid, C. R.; Smith, R. E.; Thurgood, M. C.; Turner, J. C.; Wallner, E.
 8 subjects: Evans, M. E.; Flynn, M. J.; Giles, R. M.; Griffiths, M. C.; Hobbs, J. A.; Mann, B. P.; Scott, R. G.; Stroud, A. G.; White, A.
 7 subjects: Clarke, D. G.; Coward, J. A.; Elliott, C. D.; Greenhow, D. H.; Miles, D. W.; Pritchard, D.; Rayner, E. J.; Redford, M. J.; Tulip, A.
 6 subjects: Dandridge, W. A.; Davenport, J.; Lye, R. J.; Robins, D. H.; Smith, D. C.

- 5 subjects: Burdon, D. S.; Edwards, D.; Jones, D. M.; Jordon, J.; Osborne, J. E.; Patchin, N. F.; Pulsford, B. H.; Rackstraw, A.; Sanders, T. A.; Walton, D. J.
 4 subjects: Dolphin, D. J.; Groome, R. P.; Humphries, R. G.; Lewis, I. H.; Lowe, A. B.; Pritchard, D. A.; Wingrove, P. N.
 3 subjects: Johnson, C.; Loveday, W. E.; Simpson, P. A.; Starks, V. N.; Ward, P. B.; Wise, R. A.

Additional to Sixth Form Studies

- 4 subjects: Isaacs, N. D.; Smethurst, C.
 3 subjects: Bradshaw, W. P.; Jones, D. C.
 2 subjects: Birnage, W. H.; Cutts, S.; Edgar, R. J.; Weatherhead, C. R.
 1 subject: Brooks, J.; Gale, J. C.; Goldfine, L. J.; Phillips, A. F.; Witchell, G. R.

Upper Sixth Form

Oxford Certificate of Education (Advanced Level)

Prizes

- Killip, J. D. (3 subjects at A Level, Distinction and highest mark in Chemistry, awarded a STATE SCHOLARSHIP).
 Brecknell, G. W. J. (3 subjects at A Level, 2 at Ordinary Level, highest mark in Applied Mathematics. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Climer, B. J. (3 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level, highest mark in Physics. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Elwell, W. A. V. (3 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level).
 Franklin, R. E. (3 subjects at A Level).
 Grimwood, H. D. (3 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Holness, S. F. (2 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level, Distinction in Geography, highest mark in Geography and Economic History. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Johnson, R. M. (3 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level, Distinction in Chemistry, highest mark in Pure Mathematics. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Mathias, B. (3 subjects at A Level, highest mark in Botany. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Pearson, B. C. (3 subjects at A Level, highest mark in Latin and French. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Thompson, G. (3 subjects at A Level, highest mark in English).
 White, D. (3 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level).
 Willé, R. W. (3 subjects at A Level, highest mark in Biology. Awarded a County Exhibition).
 Simmons, W. J. (2 subjects at A Level, 1 at Ordinary Level. Awarded a County Exhibition).

Certificates

- Askew, M. J.; Brooks, J.; Creighton, W. S.; Faulkner, R. E.; Glanville, R. A.; Harrison, D.; Jones, I.

Special Prizes

- Headmaster's Prize: Hamblen, W. F. D. (Head Boy).
 The "Ford" Cup (for outstanding voluntary service to the School): Creighton, W. S.
 Library Service Prize: Bradshaw, W. P.
 Special Service Prize (Gardening): Clements, A. A.
 Dramatic Prize: Brecknell, G. W. J.
 Swimming Championship Challenge Cup (presented by County Alderman A. E. Ward): Pulsford, B. H.
 Old Paludians' House Shield (for Games and Athletics): Gray House.

The Prize Fund has been greatly assisted by the generous donations received from Parents, for which the School is most grateful.

School Officials

School Captain: S. F. Holness.

Vice-Captain: G. W. J. Brecknell.

Full Prefects: M. J. Askew, B. J. Climer, W. A. V. Elwell, R. E. Faulkner, R. A. Glanville, H. D. Grimwood, J. C. Lewis, W. J. Simmons, D. J. White.

Sub-prefects: B. A. C. Ackrell, W. H. Birnage, W. P. Bradshaw, D. N. Burnett, S. J. Cutts, J. R. Ebbage, R. J. Edgar, D. J. Esling, J. C. C. Gale, R. L. Gale, L. J. Goldfine, W. J. W. Hines, D. C. Jones, W. A. F. Morgan, A. A. Overton, C. Smethurst, C. R. Weatherhead, G. R. Witchell.

House Captains:

Gray: R. E. Faulkner. Hampden: J. Lewis.
Herschel: S. F. Holness. Milton: R. L. Gale.

Cricket Captain: L. J. Goldfine.

Football Captain: R. L. Gale.

Hockey Captain: R. E. Faulkner.

Cross-country and Athletics Captain: R. E. Faulkner.

Form Jottings

1B WENT TO SHORTENILLS with Mr. Purvis and Mr. Knight on 21st of June, on a practical course of visits and map-making of the geography and history of Chalfont St. Giles and district. We are glad to see form newspapers are flourishing among the firsts. For news of 2G, see the Anthology section. 2L has been divided into groups to study set topics for Geography (e.g. coniferous forests, savanna, the deserts). The "2Elegraph" has six sections, each with its own editor and title. A party from 3B went to see a performance of *Twelfth Night* at Reading. 3L has used the form period for lectures. R. Vaughan, of 4B, spent a fortnight on a cadet course on H.M.S. *St. Vincent* and earned a recommendation. 4L has used the form period for debating society meetings. Mr. Harries took a party from 4L to the Festival Hall. Mr. Wharmby and a 4L class committee arranged a successful tour of local churches. Congratulations to M. Brent, of 5A, for obtaining the Boys' Brigade Queen's Badge. 5L has been to see the cinema production of *Julius Caesar*. The Sixth Form has held two dances since the last magazine, with increasing success and (we hope) popularity. The next one will be held on July 16th.

LOWER SIXTH

An enormous crowd has this year besieged Room 2 to continue the great tradition of the Sixth Form. With the General Certificate of Education ordinary level examinations behind us and the advanced level in the far distant future, we were immediately made aware of the culture of our new surroundings by an art gallery arranged around the walls by our Form Master, Mr. Taylor. Very soon the form became involved in the many activities of the School, with some boys on society committees, many in the School sports teams, and half of the form was concerned with the School play. At Christmas, we were to play a great part in the concert, but this, fortunately for all, was cancelled. We made up for this by entertaining ourselves and the Headmaster at a Christmas party, with several tables piled high with food.

A French circle was formed, in which French conversation is undertaken by those who no longer study the language but who do not wish to lose touch with it. The form Debating Society meets every Tuesday, and the subjects of debates have ranged from the death penalty to whether men should wear top hats, shorts and suspenders. A section of the minutes is published elsewhere. Play reading and, more recently, a supply of one hundred books, kindly obtained by Mr. Cave, help to keep our minds away from specialist studies. The form has budding salesmen in those pedlars of buns and ice-creams. But the pride of all our activities is the Rollers' Club, which concerns itself with collecting parts of disintegrated chairs and placing them in the Crush-hall for the convenience of the woodwork master. The form looks forward to next year, when the responsibilities of prefectorial duties will be lowered on to its shoulders.

UPPER SIXTH

We feel that a discreet veil should be drawn over the more exuberant goings-on of the Sixth, so we will concentrate on the scholastic side of the form's activities.

Mr. Dickinson has shown commendable patience and restraint in his handling of the form, and we are duly grateful to him.

This year has been, or at least promises to be, a highly successful one. Seventeen places have been secured, or provisionally secured, at Universities.

Bristol has provisionally accepted B. Ackrell, M. Askew, R. Gale, R. Glanville and W. Simmons, while London University will, we hope, be honoured by the attendance of S. Holness and W. Birnage (L.S.E.), G. Brecknell, R. Faulkner and H. Grimwood (King's), W. Elwell and D. White (U.C.), R. Edgar (Queen Mary's), and B. Climer, who has distinguished himself by winning a Royal Scholarship to Imperial College. J. Ebbage has a place reserved at Glasgow, W. Bradshaw may go to Reading, and L. Goldfine has a provisional acceptance at Cambridge.

W. Morgan has been accepted for an officer-cadetship at Sandhurst, while, at the time of writing, A. Overton and S. Cutts are anxiously awaiting the results of interviews for R.A.F. University Cadetships.

During the year, various courses and conferences have been attended by members of the form. Parties have been to a Hansard Society meeting and to meetings organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship. R. Edgar has attended two Orchestral courses at Shortenills, and several people attended the Shortenills course for intending University students, which was reported to be very helpful, though it rather overlooked the provincial universities. In May, 21 Sixth-formers went to High Wycombe for a S.C.M. Conference, at which we heard three excellent speakers on "Christian Authority". At the end of the term, four boys are to attend an international conference in London, organised by the C.E.W.C.

B. Ackrell and L. Goldfine are to be congratulated on being picked for the Bucks Colts Cricket XI. We should also like to congratulate J. C. C. Gale, who will be remembered for his attempt on the School mile record on Sports Day, on dead-heating for first place in the "Chalvey Chase", a $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile obstacle race at the Chalvey Whitsun fête.

G.B.

School Activities

School Savings

AT THE BEGINNING of this School year, the system of collecting money for a savings account or for certificates was changed to a simplified one in which savings stamps only are supplied. This has cut down the time needed to run the scheme without any decrease of savings compared with the last few years. The year's total up to the end of March was just over £500.

This total was achieved by about one third of the total number of boys—clearly, many boys have not realised how valuable regular saving can be; regular savers are asked to help by encouraging others in their forms to join the scheme.

S.B.

The Modelling Club

THIS YEAR, a modelling club has been started, supported chiefly by boys of the Junior School. It is only fair to say that, despite the great energy and enthusiasm expended, we haven't yet created very much of outstanding merit. But we have at least learnt from our elementary mistakes, and have now gathered together a better supply of tools and materials. If, however, any old boys or parents could provide us with materials (especially plywood and good cardboard), plans, and tools of any kind, we should be very grateful. Tonbridge has proved a very knowledgeable secretary.

Dramatic Society

AT CHRISTMAS, the Dramatic Society presented *Androcles and the Lion*, by G. B. Shaw, produced by Mr. Purvis.

Cast

Androcles, a tailor	Ian G. Simmons
Megara, his wife	Nicholas Hammans
The Lion	William Bradshaw
Centurion	Anthony Alan Overton
Captain	Geoffrey W. J. Brecknell
Lavinia, a Christian	Anthony Bowers
Roman Patricians:	
Lentulus	John Roger Little
Metullus	Robert Giles
Christians:	
Ferrovius	L. J. Cave
Spintho	Colin Smethurst
Menagerie Keeper	P. Westbrook Jones
Call Boy	Howard Phillips
The Editor of the Gladiators	Keith Ball
Secutor	Michael C. Thurgood
Retiarius	James Hobbs
Caesar	Michael J. Askew
Slaves	Nick Glanville, Brian Pulsford
	R. Scott, A. Tulip, J. Turner
Other Christians	C. Davenport, J. Barker,
	B. Bradford, F. B. Barnes, J. Mansfield,
	P. J. Hart, B. Cleverley, J. Jordon
Soldiers and Gladiators	E. Wallner, B. Garner,
	P. Anderson, D. Guest
A Beggar	K. Melia

The play is the story of a band of Christian martyrs on their way to the arena at Rome, of whom only Androcles, the simple tailor, remains true to his faith. The finest performance was given by Mr. Cave. He portrayed very accurately a man who could not rid himself of his pride and love of war, and who in the end lost his faith and joined Caesar's Praetorian Guard. I think it will be many years before Mr. Cave ceases to hear of his "blasphemy" and "wicked, wicked temper". I. Simmons played Androcles very well, with the correct balance between the humorous and pathetic side of his slightly eccentric character. A. Bowers, as the chief female character, Lavinia, is to be congratulated on his fluency and faultless diction. The part of Caesar was played by M. Askew, who gave us a comical Emperor, full of pride and puns. G. Brecknell and A. Overton gave good interpretations of frustrated soldiers who found it impossible to handle Christians without breaking military regulations. W. Bradshaw made an excellent lion, both in voice and action. Mr. Purvis, Ian Simmons, W. Bradshaw, and several others, must be congratulated on the realism of the scenes in which the lion appeared. There were many other good performances and brilliant touches by other characters, down to the non-speaking parts. Well done, the Dramatic Society!

B. J. CLIMER (Upper Sixth)

Cercle Français

THIS SOCIETY was inaugurated in March, at the request of the science group of the Lower Sixth, but is not confined exclusively to that group. Its purpose is to maintain interest in the language and practice in its use, and it has already held six meetings. A good average attendance has been maintained, and all members have enthusiastically participated in a sequence of very varied programmes which have always been practical, interesting, useful, and often very amusing. While selecting carefully items of general appeal, an attempt has been made, successfully so far, to introduce something new on each occasion.

E. WALLNER.

The Lake District, 1954

(1) LEGBURTHWAITE

THIRTEEN BOYS, seven old boys, and two members of the staff, formed this year's advanced group of the Lake District Expedition. We were encamped in a small school at Legburthwaite. We began proceedings with a "bash" which some people never recovered from (or at least they used it as an excuse to avoid future "bashes"). This took us over Helvellyn to Ullswater and back over Sticks Pass via Greenside Lead Mine. Many a footsore fell-walker, when he got back to the hostel, was heard to swear that nobody would ever catch him on another mountain.

From this point onward, a certain split was noticed in the party. And as the holiday went on, the parties became more distinct. The stranger brethren went "Khud-walloping" every day they could, some of them even being enticed by Derek Abbott and Ernie Miles, two members of the "cling and dangle school", to venture on to some easy rocks for a little climbing. The weaker, or wiser, members indulged in Bradambles, strolls, which did not tax the energy and allowed time for the enjoyment of the many amenities which the Lake District has to offer.

One of the most interesting activities of the group was a survey, when a selected "squad" sallied forth to interview some of the local notables about their lives in the lonely Lakeland valley. A knight and a rather interesting couple who talked about the deeper points of international relationship were among the victims.

Although the school at Legburthwaite was isolated, the company of Mrs. Watson was appreciated by all, and this hostel was described by its occupants as one of the best they had known.

W.B.

(2) THE DOVES' NEST

Those stalwarts who were persuaded to join the 1954 Lake District Expedition no doubt, at some time during their stay, met that glorious little hole known locally as the "Doves' Nest", half way up the side of Glaramara. Known technically as a chimney, it is little more than a vertical crack in the rock, some fifty feet high and as black as pitch inside.

On the upward climb, the big 'uns most likely got stuck in the first narrow part, and it is possible that the little 'uns were then able to improve their vocabulary. To the tail-enders it appears to be raining hot candlegrease (don't take torches, it spoils the fun), but this does no harm and peels off easily (perhaps taking some dirt with it).

Having all safely reached the top, the guide will then take them down a different way, which is as awkward for the little 'uns as the upward journey was for the big 'uns.

The biggest hazard is when they have to lower themselves by the hands between two large slabs of rock, which form a smooth, narrow crack about fourteen feet deep. The only footholds are two "chock" stones about half way down.

By now (with luck) they will have one candle left alight, and the guide's task of getting everyone down safely is no small one. Eventually, however, after many "Mind my face, you fool!" and "Where in the heck are you going?" (the last referring to the fact that there is a fork in the chimney), they will reach the point where the guide says, "You can find your way now, can't you?" After falling about ten feet and then wandering about for fifteen minutes, they will most likely see a small hole through which they will crawl on to the mountain face.

However, with knees sagging and tongues hanging, they will eventually stagger into Keswick after first climbing to the top of Glaramara.

In view of previous casualties, I understand that the following supplementary equipment must be carried by leaders on all expeditions while in the Lake District:- Parachutes, 1; Apparatus—Escape Davy—2; Respirators—Anti-gas (dormitory use), 20; Saws—Butchers' limb-removing, 2; Limbs—Artificial—left-hand side, 1 doz. assorted, right-hand side, 1 doz. assorted; Plasma—blood, 1

bank; Pistols—killers humane, 1; Rum, brandy, whisky, gin—kegs, 1 each; Aspirins, 1,000; Jackets—straight—leaders, for the use of, 2.

In spite of the above hazards, I am sure that everyone enjoyed the holiday as much as yours truly.

"CLEV"

FOR SALE: ONE PAIR OF NAILED BOOTS, SIZE TEN.

(3) THE N.W. DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Tuesday, 20th April, and the Legburthwaite "crew" of the S.G.S. Lakeland Expedition boarded the coach at the hour of 9.15 a.m. en route for Whitehaven. We were to visit the head office of the West Cumberland Industrial Development Board and its "chief", Lord Adams. On arrival in Whitehaven, information was received that said Lord Adams was engaged, and would we amuse ourselves for half an hour. The party split up, some to sample the luxury of the coach's seats and sleep, others to tour the town. Eventually, one adventurous party, groping through the fog, found the harbour and inspected the oil-grimed seagulls in the foul-smelling dock. By dint of good map-and-compass work, all arrived at the offices at the appointed time, and we were ushered into the Board Room. Mr. Purvis told Lord Adams of our aims and ideals and asked him to outline the history of this organisation. Lord Adams said he would be delighted, and launched into his story, which, in brief, is recounted here:

The Board was formed to counteract the great depression, by attracting new industries to the area, and fully developing its resources. The measure of success could be seen by counting the industries marked on the map—such things as carpets and aircraft, rayon and plutonium. The Board had met difficulties, of course—coal seams had run out and iron ore had been poor in quality and, above all, whenever they had tried to do anything in the Lakes they had been opposed by the Friends of the Lake District.

Lord Adams did some telephoning, and we learnt that we were to visit a carpet factory, H.D.A.'s plant at Winscales, and the Workington Iron and Steel Works; we were introduced to an official of the Board of Trade, who was to be our guide, and off we went, Lord Adams making a parting remark (in perfect sincerity) about the beautiful clean air of Whitehaven.

The carpet works was a typical example of a light industry, housed in one building on one floor, and with little attraction. However, at H.D.A., better things were to happen. To start with, we were introduced to a four-course luncheon, to which justice was done by all, and then started to tour the factory. The most notable part was a piece of electronic apparatus about the size of a bungalow for detecting the metals in alloys and the amounts of them. Last visit was the Iron and Steel Works. This was a poet's paradise: white-hot metal, red glows, sparks, fires, glowing ingots, and sweating men.

Emerging from this inferno (compared with this, Dante's must have been a poor effort), we rejoined the coach and proceeded back to St. John's-in-the-Vale to enjoy our excellent and possibly well-earned dinner.

I. G. SIMMONS, LVI.

The Rugger Club

LAST SEASON, a small but dedicated group enrolled to master the oval ball game. I would like to congratulate those who stayed the course, especially as we were not strong enough in numbers to play a full game among ourselves, or in experience to field a team. However, next season we hope to do both, given some steady support. Thanks are due to Eton College and Slough R.F.C. for kindly allowing us to use their pitches and equipment; and especially to R. A. Colgate (4B) for his work in providing us with balls. If any old boys or parents have any balls which they could lend or give to us, we should be very grateful.

Cadet Corps Notes

IT DOES NOT SEEM a year since, in notes similar to these, we were looking forward to the Annual Summer Camp at Ash Vale, near Aldershot. It turned out to be excellently sited amid leafy glades, and our hosts, a unit of the Royal

Army Medical Corps, looked after us splendidly. They displayed a high standard of discipline, a most salutary demonstration to hundreds of cadets from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Our thanks also go to the County Cadet Committee and to the 1st (Slough) Battalion, A.C.F.

On one occasion during that week, we were privileged guests of Sandhurst Royal Military Academy, when we witnessed a final rehearsal of the Passing Out Parade. Though some of us were not aware of it at the time, taking part in that Parade was an Old Boy of the School, G. Turnbull, who expects to start his career in a unit of the Royal Artillery very soon. Next year, William Morgan will have his place in a similar parade at Sandhurst. We congratulate him on being accepted there.

For the duration of camp, our Signals Section provided secure telephone communication between the various headquarters, and their prompt operating at the Exchange earned the praise and thanks of the officers concerned.

Since then, the traditions of the School Company have been maintained by our few but loyal members. At the Certificate "A" Examinations last September, Cpl. G. Stroud obtained Part II and Cpls. A. Naylor, D. Bell, K. Elstone, L/Cpls. G. Hanson, G. Morgan, Cadets J. Young and A. Clements gained Part I.

Five members of the Company have attended Royal Signals courses at Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain, during the Christmas and Easter vacations. There, in competition with Cadets from many other Grammar Schools, Cpls. G. Stroud and K. Elstone, L/Cpl. G. Morgan, Cadets J. Young and A. Clements became "Classified" Signallers, and C.S.M. S. F. Holness qualified as an Instructor. He also earned the commendation of "best student on the course".

We shall be sorry to lose such staunch supporters as Cpl. A. Robinson, C/Sgt. Morgan, and C.S.M. Holness at the end of this term. In fact, we shall be sadly lost for quite a time without our Sergeant Major and our Colour Sergeant, on whose all-out efforts the Company has been able to rely for so long. Alas! who will clean the rifles, check the satchels signal, count the earth pins and blow the valves when they are gone? Who will mend the puncture in the Company Commander's bike, officers for the use of?

And so we turn to welcome this term's intake of recruits from the Third Form, with the fervent hope that they will achieve in their time the stern standards set them by their seniors.

We end these notes, as we began, with a word or two about the annual camp. This year, it is to be held at Fort Tregantle, near Torpoint, Cornwall, from 1st to 10th August—ten days beside the sea for the very modest charge of fifteen shillings!

The School Orchestra

THIS WAS STARTED, mainly to provide interval music for the last School play, by Mr. Hampshire, who sent away for new music and conducted rehearsals once a week. Through his energies, the interval music was a success and the orchestra, all seven of them, decided to carry on. Since then, Mr. Cave and Mr. Doncaster have both joined in and added to the volume of the orchestra on the viola and clarinet respectively.

Thus the orchestra now boasts three first violins, three second violins, a clarinet, a viola, and, when Mr. Hampshire is not conducting rehearsals at the piano, a cello.

The latest pieces played have included several waltzes by Schubert and music used by the old School orchestra. These pieces, although rather heart-rending at first, sounded, after several rehearsals, quite pleasing when heard from a distance.

Owing to the pressure of sports practices, no rehearsals were held before Whitsun, but with the new music acquired this has been rectified.

A.S.P.

Music Society

Chairman: S. F. Holness; *Secretary:* G. W. J. Brecknell.

THE MOST OUTSTANDING EVENT of the Society's year was a Christmas Party, held at the High School in conjunction with the High School Music Society. This was a riotous success, about seventy members from this School attending. We helped to provide the evening's entertainment, which included the first performance by the joint schools' Madrigal Group. This group, about twenty strong, was first suggested at a Music Society committee meeting, and since its inception has practised diligently in out-of-school hours, with the result that, on entering for the Slough Arts Festival, the group not only won their class by a margin of 10 points, but also won the Senior Challenge Cup by obtaining the highest marks in the choral section of the Festival. Their conductor, Julie Neale, especially deserves congratulations on this fine achievement.

In addition, the Society has organised regular lunch-hour concerts, catering for all tastes in music, and two musical evenings were staged, in conjunction with our sister society.

G. W. J. BRECKNELL.

Geographical and Historical Society

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Wharmby, Purvis, Knight, Taylor, Portus, Bell, Holness, and Bradshaw.

Chairman: I. Simmons; *Secretary:* C. Smethurst; *Treasurer:* J. Ebbage.

Committee: L. Jackson, C. Miles, A. Hudson, C. Davenport, R. Stanger. *Museum Dept.:* R. Giles. *Meteorological Dept.:* J. Turner.

THE SOCIETY has risen quickly to become the most active society in the School. This has been mainly due to the great interest in the Society shown by certain members of staff, including Messrs. Wharmby, Knight, Purvis, and Taylor. Our year's activities began in early September with a trip to Thame Show, which proved interesting, educational, and wet. Coach trips have been run to Ely and Cambridge, Rye and Tunbridge Wells, Cheddar, Wookey, Bath, and Wells. It is encouraging to note that the support for these ventures has increased on each occasion. Evening activities have included film shows (ranging on subjects from Reykjavik to Zululand) and a quiz with the High School which was narrowly lost. Evening rambles have now found their way into our programme. We are now collecting articles for a school museum, and would be glad to receive anything of interest.

W. BRADSHAW, S. F. HOLNESS.

The Library

THE FICTION SECTION of the School Library is closed during this term, and will be during the greater part of next term. The non-fiction section is open only to the Sixth Form. The reason is that a new library is soon to be built, and all the books have to be re-catalogued. Most are also being re-classified according to the comprehensive Dewey decimal system in use in all the local public libraries. This work is being enthusiastically carried out by S. Hyde (4A), H. Phillips and D. Clarke (L6), and G. Brecknell (U.6), under the expert supervision of Mr. H. Todd.

So far, all the Junior and Senior Fiction, Science, Religion, Travel, and most of the English Literature sections have been both classified and catalogued, and the History section classified only; the Reference and certain miscellaneous sections have yet to be done, together with several interesting new volumes recently acquired. Among the periodicals regularly received are *The Listener*, *New Statesman*, *The Economist*, *Spectator*, *Geographical Magazine*, and *Coming Events*.

We hope that the library will continue to flourish and expand in its new building and that it will not be too long before it is reopened and once more catering for all forms and all tastes in the School.

D. CLARKE.



THE INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE XI

Back l. to r.—A. Cordery, I. Stewart, M. Holliday, D. Draper, J. Jeffries, J. Barker. Front—J. Freer, R. Thomas, J. Clark, G. Rutter, R. Wilcox.



J. CLARK

Captain of Intermediate XI with the Lightfoot Cup
[Photographs by D. J. WHITE (U.VI)]



A SCENE FROM THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY PRODUCTION OF "ANDROCLES AND THE LION."
[Photograph by kind permission of the "Slough Observer."]

Travel Week, 1953

WEARY FEET dragging along interminable quaysides . . . cranes . . . loose ropes and cables . . . men working . . . no smoking . . . insignificant clusters of humans in the gaunt auditoriums of vast warehouses . . . down-at-heel tramp steamers . . . superior liners . . . the "poop-poop" of fussy little tugboats going about their business . . . and the background of the grey ruins of Southampton past and present and the pock-marked spires and truncated towers of the shells of buildings that were once proud and ancient churches!

It was "Southampton—here we come!" for 400 addicts of "Travel Week", ushering in this important event in the School programme of activities. We travelled by train, exhaustively toured the docks, and then journeyed along the Southampton Water, past Netley and its famous military hospital; Hythe, home of speedboats; Fawley, and its great oil refineries; to Calshot Point, and a good view of the Isle of Wight.

The rest of Travel Week programme followed the pattern of previous years—the longer coach journeys around South Bucks, across the Weald, to the White Horse Vale and to Salisbury.

Many seniors made the long journey to Dorchester, Maiden Castle, and Lulworth Cove. Another senior group saw much of Cambridge and spent an interesting two hours in the Geography Laboratories.

Parties of "maroon-coats" were seen at Hampton Court, Windsor Castle, the Tower of London and, to the astonishment of the inhabitants, at Regents Park and Whipsnade. In museums and factories, in the Town Hall and around the public utilities (the Gasworks and, with unnecessarily superior nose, the Sewage Farm) they were also seen.

We were received with kindness and with helpfulness on all our visits. We would like our gratitude to be recorded.

The Printing Club

SINCE ITS FOUNDATION nearly five years ago, the Printing Club has flourished and prospered under the guidance and advice of Mr. Millar. Mr. Knight kindly took over this responsibility when Mr. Millar unfortunately had to leave the School last Easter for health reasons.

The main activities of the Club are the printing of letterheads, society membership cards, dance tickets, and the tickets and programmes for the School plays. In the autumn, the Club hopes to buy a second press, which will enable it to increase the output of work and perhaps extend the membership.

G. GILES, LVI (Secretary).

Lower Sixth Debating Society

A LIVELY DEBATE on March 23rd proved typical of the Society's meetings. The motion was that there were no opportunities for a "comprehensive school" in Slough. In proposing the motion, Mr. Rayner said there was no site large enough, and that the size of the school would lead to a decline in the social life of the school. In reply, Mr. Jones said that space was hardly a problem, since schools could be built upwards, as in London, and that large numbers enhanced the opportunity for team work. Mr. Stroud seconded the motion and pointed out that space was needed for sports facilities. Moreover, he said, educational progress would be retarded, since there was a lack of qualified teachers, especially on the Science side. Mr. Pulsford deplored the present entrance examination system and said that a comprehensive school gave a chance to those who "blossom late", who otherwise would be denied such opportunities. During the question time, Mr. Jordan pointed out difficulties in "skyscraper schools" and Mr. Simmons said the system of comprehensive schools would add three or four years to one's education. In his summing up, Mr. Rayner said that the entrance examination scheme at the age of eleven could be replaced by teachers' recommendations. Mr. Jones pointed out that all the best could still attain Universities through comprehensive schools. The motion was carried by 20 votes to 2.

P. ANDERSON.

Sixth Form Civics Society

Hon. Chairman: R. E. Faulkner. *Hon. Secretary:* D. J. White.

Committee members: B. Climer, J. Ebbage, R. Glanville, H. Grimwood.

THE SOCIETY started off well this year, with a series of meetings during the Christmas term.

The meetings usually consisted of informal discussions on current affairs, although occasionally debates were organised.

During the Easter term, the Society met with several difficulties in arranging the evening on which meetings were to be held.

At the end of the Easter term, it was decided to ask the Debating Society of Slough High School to join with us in some meetings during the summer term. The first of the planned meetings has already occurred. This took the form of a forum answering questions put by members of the audience.

Several of the Society's members have visited the debates organised by the Inter-schools "Phoenix" Debating Society, which holds about six meetings a year.

D. J. WHITE

The School Morris Men

THE CLUB, which was formed last year, gave its first public display at the Easter Concert in the School Hall. The setting was not ideal, but the audience gave us an enthusiastic reception. The next show was in the open, at the Slough Schools' Coronation Display and the Whitchurch Morris Men's fiddler provided the music. The applause won by the team showed that the public much enjoyed the dancing. As one of the officials wrote later, "It was technically impressive, but was also valuable as light relief to the programme." The Club now has ten members and its own musician, C. Hale. We should welcome new members from the Middle School upwards, to this healthy and enjoyable recreation. The Morris Dance is a vigorous activity and has proved too strenuous for boys in the Junior School. Early this year, we had to refuse invitations to dance at local functions because our numbers were so few. However, despite this handicap, we are glad to report that we have accepted a small number of requests. The most important one was at the Royal Agricultural Show at Windsor in July.

H.D.

Badminton Club

Captain: G. W. J. Brecknell.

Committee: W. A. V. Elwell, A. Rackstraw, D. York.

DURING ITS SECOND YEAR, the Badminton Club has flourished and expanded. Early in the Autumn term, a match was arranged with the L.V.S. team. Although a younger team, they were much more experienced than our players, and we lost by 6 matches to 3. A week later we met them again and this time won by 5 matches to 4. We have played the L.V.S. twice more since then, and have won both matches, 8-1 and 6-3. Matches have also been played with the Shavian Club, Richings Park, and a team of Cippenham schoolmasters. Altogether, we have played eight matches and won seven, an excellent record for our first season's competitive play.

The mainstays of the School team have been Alan Rackstraw and Dick York. They have played as our first pair in six matches, and have won 26 games out of 29 played. Bert Ackrell and Geoff Brecknell have played as second pair, and Elwell, Spinks, Rayner, Miles, and Gillam have variously made up the team of six.

Altogether, the club has enjoyed a most successful and enjoyable season's sport.

G. W. J. BRECKNELL

Scientific Society

Chairman: D. J. White; *Vice-Chairman:* B. Climer.

Treasurer: M. J. Askew; *Secretary:* H. D. Grimwood.

Committee: R. E. Faulkner, G. Brecknell, R. Gale, L. Goldfine.

THE SOCIETY has now been functioning for three years and has become well established throughout the Senior and Intermediate School.

The Society's membership has increased from 70 members last year to 130 members this year.

Last year, an innovation was the attendance at our meetings (and vice versa) of members of the Girls' High School Science Society. These combined meetings have continued, the latest of which took the form of a quiz, which was won by our Society by 48 to the girls' 33.

The most popular meetings continue to be film shows.

Membership to the Society has now been extended to the Third Forms.

H. D. GRIMWOOD.

News from the Old Boys

The Old Paludians

ONCE AGAIN the Club has had a most successful year. Eleven dances have been held, which have been well attended and have produced useful profits for Club funds. London shows visited have included *The Moon is Blue*, *Pardon My French*, *The Boy Friend*, and *The King and I*.

The main item of news from the General Committee is the purchase of Pope's Field, Berry Hill, Taplow, for development as a Sports Ground. The purchase price was £500, of which £100 was subscribed from Club funds. The balance of £400 was obtained on a ten-year mortgage from the State Building Society.

The sum of approximately £800 will be required over the next year or so for the complete development of the ground. To date, about £170 has been raised, from a Jumble Sale, Derby Draw, and Members' contributions. All members have been requested to donate £1 for this purpose, and these are being subscribed at a fairly steady rate. A further Jumble Sale is being held on Saturday, 20th November, 1954, at the Church Institute, Herschel Street, Slough.

A pavilion has been designed by "Jumbo" Robotham, and it is hoped that the final plans will be submitted to the Planning Authorities very shortly. It includes dressing-rooms, shower-baths, kitchen, bar, and club-room. This brick pavilion will be built entirely by Club members. Further volunteers would be greatly appreciated, especially as in the near future we hope to begin laying the foundations of the pavilion and preparing the pitches.

S. W. JONES (*Hon. Secretary*).

Old Paludians Hockey Club

OUR GREATEST STEP FORWARD last season was undoubtedly the running of a regular 3rd XI. This was formed especially for the older boys at school, and those who have just left, providing them with a regular game of hockey, and thus enabling them to improve their play. During the season, Jimmy Osborne earned himself a regular place in the 2nd XI, and Graham Holmes played several times for the first team, which shows that, with ability, one can quickly progress to the higher levels. Next September, we are commencing a coaching session for the younger members, to be held on Monday evenings at the School, under the guidance of our new club captain, John May, who is himself a County selector.

The club is indeed grateful to Messrs. Bradshaw, Holness, and Osborne for helping to establish the 3rd XI, and we, the old boys, sincerely hope the boys at school will continue to come along and play hockey with us, for the future strength of any club depends upon its younger members. With their support, we hope soon to introduce a fourth eleven.

Our new ground at Taplow is now under development, but for the present we shall continue to play at Lascelles Playing Fields, and use the amenities of the School. We are indebted to the Head Master for kindly allowing us this privilege, and to Bert Charman for supplying the teas and showers each week.

At the beginning of the season it was necessary for the 1st XI to rebuild their side, with the result that they did not really get into their stride until after Christmas, but they *did* beat Gerrards Cross for the first time—in fact they won both encounters. In all, 12 games were won, 8 lost, and 5 drawn, with 64 goals scored for and 51 against. The captain, Paddy May, was again top scorer, with 25, and he, Tony Stevenson, and Martin Haisman were selected to play for the County and "A" Eleven.

The 2nd XI had a rather poor season, mainly due to players leaving the district or temporarily giving up the game, which greatly reduced the strength of the team. This was a great pity after such a good run in 1952/53, when they only lost one match. The results last season were: won 9, lost 14, drawn 3, goals for 46, and against 60. Norman Harrington headed the list of scorers with 13 to his credit.

The 3rd XI, although not fully experienced at the moment, did, however, put up a very good display. True, they only won three games, but when they lost a match it was only by an odd goal or two, and their obvious enthusiasm will have its reward in future seasons.

Frank Robotham, it is believed, will be retiring from active hockey, and whilst we are sorry to lose him from the 1st XI, we hope he will join John Pallett as one of the Club's regular umpires.

Colin Thompson, who last year went into the R.A.F., has obtained his commission, and will shortly be given his wings. Meanwhile, he has not been neglecting his hockey and, in addition to playing for his command, he was chosen to represent the R.A.F. At the end of the season he was selected to play for the Combined Services. Good luck, Colin. You may be the first International to come from the School.

Lastly, the club would like to send best wishes for a speedy recovery to Jimmy Osborne, who unfortunately met with an accident in Windsor recently. We all hope to see him on the field again next year.

E. W. HAMBLET (*Hon. Secretary*).

Old Paludians Football Club

THE SEASON NOW PASSED has been one of the best experienced by the club since the war. The 1st XI were runners-up in the London Old Boys' Cup and fourth in the Old Boys' League Division I (North). The 2nd XI reached the third round of the Slough Town Junior Cup and finished eighth in the Old Boys' League Division II (West). This is the greatest progress they have made in this Cup and the League for some seasons. The 3rd XI finished eighth in the Old Boys' League Division III (West).

To say that the 1st XI started badly is to give them more credit than they deserve. The first game, against the School, was lost 4-3. Bob Gale, Bertie Ackrell & Co. certainly provided the class of football we have been led to expect from them, and were worthy winners. After a few more setbacks, the team settled down and, with the return of Pete Canon from Slough Town F.C., began to mould into a useful side. First signs of better things to come was when they defeated the cup-holders, Old Cheyneans, in the second round of the London Old Boys' Cup. The team continued from strength to strength, until they held a challenging position in the league and were booked for the L.O.B. Cup Final. Trinity Old Boys had all the luck in this game, and were lucky to

win by as large a margin as 5-0. The loss of two points in the league on 16th April shattered all hopes of league honours. Leading goal-scorer: D. Edwards.

The 2nd XI's season did not materialise quite as well as expected from early results. Their first game, against the School, was won 2-1, thereby saving the club from complete disgrace in the eyes of the School. They followed up with "local cup" successes and a noble defeat, namely, losing to the all-conquering Georgians 7-5. The team lost form after Christmas and never really got back to the form we had come to expect from them. A little more luck in front of opponents' goals would have won a few more points, and generally this side is capable of a successful future. Leading goal-scorer: A. Jenkins.

The 3rd XI had a typical third string's season. No two consecutive weeks was the same team fielded. Experiments were tried and players gained promotion to the other elevens with regularity. The 2nd XI has gained to a great extent from this team players who have proved their worth. Younger members have gained useful experience in this team and have gained promotion to the other elevens, and will continue to in the future.

The influx of younger members this season has been steady, and while the club continues to gain such support from the School it will do well in the future. We have been really fortunate to have had the services of such good young members as W. Birnage, R. Gale, B. Garner, K. Hall, and W. Loveday during the season.

We have made two attempts at a "newsletter", and it is hoped to publish one every month during the coming season.

The season's end was celebrated at Ye Olde Red Lion, Langley, with a Sausage-and-Mash Supper. This proved an enjoyable evening, and it is hoped to include this event in next season's fixtures.

We are deeply grateful for the amenities provided by the School last season. The use of the gymnasium on Monday evenings proved to be most helpful in keeping the players fit.

E. C. COE (*Hon. Secretary*).

Officials for season 1954-55:-

Chairman: H. F. G. West; Hon. Secretary: E. C. Coe; Hon. Team and Fixture Secretary: D. Nicholas; Hon. Treasurer: A. Jenkins; Hon. Assistant Secretary: D. Edwards; Committee: R. Buckland, R. Cook, W. Loveday, and G. Porter; Captains: 1st XI—H. F. G. West, 2nd XI—D. Nicholas, 3rd XI—J. J. Sexton.

Old Paludians Cricket Club

SEASON 1953.

1953 PROVED TO BE a good season, after a disappointing start when three of the opening games were scratched through adverse weather conditions. During the season, thirty-three games were played, of which sixteen were won, fourteen lost, and only three drawn. Two of our most enjoyable games were played over August Bank Holiday. On Sunday we were narrowly beaten by a strong Bracknell side, and on Monday Bradenham were beaten by six wickets in a fast-scoring game. Of the averages, H. Jones was top of the batting, with K. Martin second. These players scored 363 and 453 runs respectively. J. Osborne, although still at school, did exceedingly well to compile 272 runs during the season. R. Bruce and E. Grant were our two bowling mainstays, taking fifty-nine and forty-four wickets each. D. Edwards, another member still at school, took thirty-nine wickets.

SEASON 1954

The Pals have made rather a poor start this season, losing four of the five games played, with two games scratched through bad weather.

Our thanks are expressed to the Head Master for allowing the use of the School nets for practice on Monday evenings.

R. ASHLEY (*Hon. Secretary*).

House Notes

Gray House

A MEETING was held early this year to elect a new Captain, Vice-Captain, Secretary and three new Committee members to replace R. W. Willé, J. D. Killip and J. Davenport, to whom we express our sincere thanks for willing service and our best wishes for success in the careers they have chosen. The House officials now are : Captain—R. E. Faulkner; Vice-Captain—B. A. C. Ackrell; Secretary—B. J. Garner; Committee—D. C. Jones, F. Barnes, A. Painter.

We are naturally pleased that Gray House regained its position as leading House on Sports Day with a total of 211 points, $18\frac{1}{2}$ points more than its most formidable rival. In Class I particularly, there were many excellent performances which should inspire those now in Classes II and III to greater efforts in the coming year. Our special congratulations are extended to D. Cullimore, who gained the Victor Ludorum (The Johnson Cup) for the second time, with a total of 33 points, by outstanding results in almost every event in his class. Cullimore also set up a new record for the 440 yards; time 55 secs. In Class I, A. S. Painter gained 10 points for the House, gaining second place (tied), and D. C. Jones set up a new record for throwing the cricket ball, achieving a distance of 96yds. 2ft. 7ins.

Gray has also done well again this year in the inter-house football matches, and we hope that this high standard will be maintained throughout the coming year.

The House suffered a great loss in the resignation of Mr. Millar last Easter, following a very severe illness. His expert knowledge of sports activities and his calm direction of affairs made him a great asset to the House. We extend to him our best wishes for his improved health and an early resumption of his professional life.

In conclusion, it is important that every member of the House, and this applies particularly to the Junior School, should strive to emulate the successful efforts of competitors in the Senior School in order to retain this year's position.

B. JARDINE GARNER (*Hon. Secretary*).

Hampden House

Captain: J. Lewis; *Secretary:* W. Birnage; *Committee:* J. Gale, R. Glanville.

WHAT A CONTRAST with last year, when we led the field in athletics and performed creditably in football! Although, on paper, our efforts do not make exciting reading, Hampden House finishing fourth in the House Championship, there are encouraging signs that, in the future, our rivals will have to look to their laurels. Nevertheless, we must face up to the fact that a vast improvement is necessary, since this year's results proved a disappointment. Probably our decline is due to many of our athletes moving into a higher class, and next year we should be more successful.

Mention of individual performances should be made. In Class I, J. Gale gave a meritorious performance in both the Mile Scratch and the Mile Handicap. Also in the same class, E. Bevan continued his success, again winning the Shot.

Lack of success was most noticeable in Class II, but Hannam was third in the High Jump.

In Class III, the reputation of the House was upheld by good performances by J. Freer, W. Hardy, D. M. Frazer, M. S. Head, D. Thomas, and D. Freeman.

We shall certainly have to do some hard thinking over our football teams, and if we are to wrest the House challenge cup from Gray House our football must improve.

This year, we shall be losing the services of our House Captain, J. Lewis, who has given the House three years' valuable service. We wish him every success for the future.

W. H. BIRNAGE (*Hon. Secretary*)

Herschel House

Captain and Secretary: S. F. Holness.

THE PAST YEAR can be looked upon with considerable pride by members of the House, the most outstanding achievement being the relinquishment of the "wooden spoon" in athletics. Thanks to a combined effort, Herschel moved from bottom house to a very close second. Major credit for this must go to Class II members, especially P. R. Jones, who set up a new Javelin record of 127ft., and A. C. Memmott, who gained the highest number of points in his class. Newcomers to the House also more than held their own in Class III, special mention going to R. H. Thomas and J. D. Jeffries, who dominated the sprints and enabled the House to win the Class III relay.

Mention must also be made of all the members of the House, who, even though eliminated themselves, gave their representatives every encouragement.

In football and cricket the "new blood" was also felt to good effect, and the results are very encouraging for next year.

Let us hope that the improvement of the last year will continue and that this year's successes will give future inspiration.

S.F.H.

Milton House

AGAIN MILTON REMAINED a house of individuals instead of working as a team. At the Annual Sports we were placed third and would have undoubtedly been last had it not been for the hard work of M. Deuchar and R. Willis, who dominated the track events in their class. M. Deuchar shared the Smith Cup, which is awarded to the competitor gaining most points in Class II; he also did extremely well in the District Sports, winning both the 220yds. and the 440yds. We were well represented in the cricket, football, and hockey elevens. While R. L. Gale led the School football team to success, R. M. Johnson did likewise as School cricket captain, and his successor, L. J. Garner, is now proving equally capable. B. Pulsford regained the swimming cup by winning every racing event.

The First Form boys have added a new gleam to Milton's prospects for the future. They did well at football during the Autumn Term and shone in the field events on Sports Day.

Let us hope that, next year, Milton will have great success in all fields.

RAY P. GROOME (*Secretary*).

Games and Athletics

Football

WE WERE TWO of 100,000 spectators at the Amateur Cup Final at the fabulous Wembley. Quite fantastic! Thousands of cheerful folk from the North bent on football, pleasure, and a roam round London. Thousands more were drawn by the modern magnet of an Occasion—a Crowd. One is open to conviction that a Tiddleywinks Final would, if boosted by the mighty machinery of present-day publicity, pack Wembley to capacity; such is the susceptibility to herding in the name of Sport of modern man.

After seeing so much excellent football played by the School First Eleven, we were unimpressed by the performance put up before the seething masses. The football was mediocre—flashes of fine half-back play, but, on the whole, the game reached heights no greater than those attained on school or village pitches on any Saturday: but people paid nearly thirty thousand pounds in admission fees . . . A story not very much different could be told of the following week, when professional gladiators had their turn.

A strange commentary on present trends.

Infinitely better in retrospect are memories of match after match played by the School, in which there was a display of genuine team-work, all-out effort, and skilful play—football—uncupped, unshielded—and unmatched.

Two or three of last year's stalwarts left school last summer, but this year's XI remained substantially unchanged, and maintained a two-seasons record of being undefeated by any school side. The record reads: played 18, won 14, drawn 4, lost 0; goals for 82, goals against 24. In addition to all our old School rivals, we beat the Old Paludians, a Reading University XI, and Newlands Park T.C.

To a great extent, individual comments on the members of this really workmanlike side are superfluous—their particular contributions have been noted in a recent issue; but it was good to see last season's skill and spirit maintained. Field Marshal Bob Gale was again in command—of the team, the opponents, and the circumstances—still setting a perfect example by his own solid defence and intelligent covering. In the half-back line he still had W. J. Hines giving, as usual, all he had, and J. C. Gale with his enthusiasm and ball control. Their only fault: a tendency to lose position and leave gaps.

Behind them, B. Pulsford and W. Birnage were again "big" successes, giving displays of effective tackling and safe clearing with a confidence born of long experience. Later, following injuries, B. Garner, L. Glanville and M. Gillham proved powerful successors at full- and half-back. In goal, K. Hall more than fulfilled his earlier promise. He studied his rôle—he was keen, plucky and resourceful.

On the right flank operated the old firm of D. C. Jones and B. Ackrell. Ackrell continually adds polish to his game. He is the complete craftsman—our own Hungarian Rhapsody, as it were. In some games the play did not swing Jones' way, and he was disinclined to forage, but his strong running and sure shooting were much in evidence.

In the middle, A. Bradbury succeeded J. Gale, and performed valiantly. Not a centre-forward by birth, he was soon naturalised and invariably went all out, being difficult to dispossess and dangerous near goal. On the left, J. Jordan proved a lion in cub's clothing; against heavier defenders he played dashing and determined football. G. Witchell loped along the wing as usual, seeking the chance to slam in one of his wing specials. In passing, we note the outstanding success of last year's D. Edwards for the Old Paludians and of G. Glanville in another local side; also the fact that many present boys turned out often as a junior Old Pals team.

The summary must again this year be—a grand season, a triumph of team spirit, and a splendid finish to the school careers of many. May we have their like as successors next September.

SECOND ELEVEN

The XI followed close on the heels of the Firsts, with a record reading played 16, won 14, drawn 2, lost 0; goals for 91, against 23.

Once more the First Eleven was not much changed, so that this side could experiment and develop on its own. An average of five to six goals scored per match shows the success achieved. J. Hinds was a cheerful and most competent goalkeeper, M. Askew and J. Hobbs were dependable defenders, L. Glanville, B. Garner and M. Gillham were particularly strong players, and J. Parkes provided stout support.

E. Wallner thundered down the wing as eagerly as ever, while inside finesse came from L. Goldfine (captain) and A. Rackstraw. D. J. Turner showed excellent form on the wing, too, as did F. Barnes inside. D. Gullimore used his great speed and power of shot with much success in the middle. E. Rayner and P. Anderson did well, and D. Walton, A. Welham, A. Memmott, and R. Henry filled the occasional gap very ably.

UNDER 15 XI

Conditions in this age group have not varied—the District XI and the League and Cup competitions making their customary claims. Some quite tight and enjoyable games were played, and everyone played hard and well. Twice in particular the team lost mainly because their opponents were heavier and stronger.

C. Symons (captain) continues to progress. He is tremendously keen, adaptable, and useful with his head. A. Memmott worked fantastically hard always and combined neatly with the diminutive but very useful J. Glanville on the

right wing. J. Morgan did well on the other wing, supported by J. Driver and N. Ward. Good football came from this forward line.

At centre-half, D. Middleton was strong, determined, and tireless. He was well backed by P. R. Jones and G. Morgan. A. Southam, although it was difficult to find him on the more overgrown pitches, played always with skill and enthusiasm.

I. Hogg was able to turn out, business permitting, and show again that he has the makings of a thoroughly sound full-back. C. Toogood settled down well and became a solid and reliable left-back, while good work was again done by J. Rees in goal. J. Siney later joined the defence and was an immediate success.

Enjoyable non-league games were also played with Strode's, Egham (won and drawn) and Bishopsholt, Uxbridge (won).

UNDER 13 ELEVEN

In the Intermediate XI there is great promise for some future First XI. The football played was crisp, forceful and constructive. Fortunately, few changes had to be made and good combination and team spirit rapidly developed.

A strong half-back line laid the foundation of victory after victory—the side won all their matches and brought back the Championship Cup and also the Lightfoot Cup.

J. Clarke (captain) always set a perfect example, working hard and constructively from beginning to end in game after game. D. Draper supported him with great vim and vigour, and the industrious J. Jeffries completed an excellent line of halves. At back, I. Stewart was another neat and untiring worker, and A. Cordery covered well; with greater speed in tackle and clearance he will be a good player. J. Barker was a safe and enthusiastic keeper—this was an admirable defence trio.

The forward line was mostly lacking in inches, but certainly little else was missing. They were all fast, and they combined well. R. Thomas and D. Wilcox were an effective pair on the right wing, scuttling gleefully down into enemy territory and not forgetting to take the ball with them. M. Holliday led the line well and was dangerous anywhere near goal, and on his left J. Freer and G. Rutter formed another lively raiding wing. R. Keenan was an effective and speedy substitute. Congratulations, too, go to all the enthusiastic trialists—Freeman, D. Williams, J. Diment, B. Antill, R. Butler and the rest—the spirit is good and the competition for places keen; and surely the thanks of the team go to Mr. Millar for the time and care he lavished on them.

SIX-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT

We had a brilliant day for the season's finale, and in both sections, games were fiercely contested. To select individuals for mention is, as ever, invidious; but if we had to name a Senior and a Junior outstanding for skill and sheer effort throughout the afternoon, L. Glanville and I. Stewart might well be chosen.

The Senior winners were: J. C. Gale (captain), Goldfine, Rackstraw, Welham, Pither, and Rees, who beat B. Pulsford's team.

The Junior winners were D. Draper (captain), R. Wilcox, D. Williams, J. Osborne, R. Keenan, G. Gross, who beat J. Barker's side.

Swimming

INCOMPETITIVE EVENTS the Swimming Club has had a successful year, narrowly missing first place in the Senior Schools Gala. The members of the team were B. A. Thomas, R. C. Henry, D. L. Thomas, J. Rees, R. Behring, and J. C. Bamborough. Points gained in the various events added up to 25, only two less than the winners, William Penn. The Technical School came third, with nine points, and Orchard fourth, with five points. J. Rees put up a record time of 54.2 seconds in the two-lengths breast-stroke event.

In the Intermediate Gala, however, we were outclassed in most events, although P. R. Thomas gained a first in the Breast-stroke Style event. Our team—W. Flynn, P. R. Thomas, A. Williams, J. Alley, D. Thomas and A. Watson—has three first-formers, so we should have a good nucleus still young enough for next year's team.

School Sports

(G—Gray; Ha—Hampden; He—Herschel; M—Milton)

CLASS III

- 100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.9 sec.]—1. Thomas, R. H. (He); 2. Jeffries, J. D. (He); 3. Hardy, W. (Ha); 4. Freer, J. A. (Ha). Time: 13.4 sec.
 220 Yards [Record (1949): 27.5 sec.]—1. Jeffries, J. D. (He); 2. Thomas, R. H. (He); 3. Hardy, W. (Ha); 4. Summerhayes, C. (M). Time: 30.2 sec.
 Long Jump [Record (1948): 15ft. 8½in.]—1. Freer, J. A. (Ha); 2. Frazer, D. M. (Ha); 3. Thomas, R. H. (He). Distance: 13ft. 4½in.
 High Jump [Record (1951): 4ft. 5in.]—1. Head, M. S. (Ha); 2. Thomas, D. (Ha); 3. Freeman, D. (Ha); 4. Monks, R. N. (G). Height: 4ft. 0in.
 Hop, Step, Jump [Record (1950): 30ft. 3in.]—1. Deuchar, A. B. M. (M); 2. Freer, J. A. (Ha); 3. Portsmouth, M. J. (M); 4. Monks, R. N. (G). Distance: 26ft. 11in.
 Putting the Shot [Record (1951): 44ft. 2in.]—1. Deuchar, A. B. M. (M); 2. Freeman, D. (Ha); 3. Alley, J. G. (G); 4. Jeffries, J. D. (He). Distance: 31ft. 5in.
 Throwing the Cricket Ball [Record (1953): 64yds. 2in.]—1. Jeffries, J. D. (He); 2. Alley, J. (G); 3. Shemmans, B. A. (Ha); 4. Antill, K. L. (M). Distance: 48yds. 2ft. 10in.
 Relay—1. Herschel, 2. Milton, 3. Hampden, 4. Gray. Winning team: Thomas, R. H., Jeffries, J. D., Alderman, A. E., Bennett, B.

CLASS II

- 100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.6 sec.]—1. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M); 2. Willis, J. D. (M); 3. Memmott, A. C. (He); 4. Pywell, J. G. (G). Time: 11.85 sec.
 220 Yards [Record (1948): 25.4 sec.]—1. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M); 2. Willis, J. D. (M); 3. Pywell, J. G. (G); 4. Memmott, A. C. (He). Time: 26.9 sec.
 440 Yards [Record (1953): 60.9 sec.]—1. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M); 2. Willis, J. D. (M); 3. Memmott, A. C. (He); 4. Pywell, J. G. (G). Time: 61.4 sec.
 880 Yards [Record (1951): 2 min. 27.2 sec.]—1. Willis, J. D. (M); 2. Memmott, A. C. (He); 3. Bester, R. H. (He); 4. Burrows, R. G. (G). Time: 2 min. 28.8 sec.
 Long Jump [Record (1949): 17ft. 10½in.]—1. Memmott, A. C. (He); 2. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M); 3. Jones, P. R. (He); 4. Harding, D. (G). Distance: 15ft. 8½in.
 High Jump [Record (1953): 4ft. 9in.]—1. Thomas, B. A. (He); 2. Pywell, J. G. (G); 3. Hannam, R. J. (Ha), Holliday, M. F. (M). Height: 4ft. 7in.
 Throwing the Javelin [Record (1951): 121ft. 7½in.]—1. Jones, P. R. (He); 2. Thomas, B. A. (He); 3. Memmott, A. C. (He); 4. Pywell, J. G. (G). Distance: 111ft. 11in. NEW RECORD: Jones, P. R., 127ft. in eliminations.
 Throwing the Discus [Record (1951): 111ft. 4in.]—1. Thomas, B. A. (He); 2. Pywell, J. G. (G); 3. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M); 4. Parkes, G. (G).
 Putting the Shot [Record (1953): 52ft. 1in.]—1. Memmott, D. C. (He); 2. Thomas, B. A. (He); 3. Dearlove, B. R. (G); 4. Middleton, D. C. (G). Distance: 43ft. 9½in.
 Throwing the Cricket Ball [Record (1952): 72yds. 1ft. 8in.]—1. Middleton, D. C. (G); 2. Dearlove, B. R. (G); 3. Willis, J. D. (M); 4. Thomas, B. A. (He). Distance: 69yds. 1ft. 1in.
 Relay—1. Milton, 2. Herschel, 3. Gray, 4. Hampden. Time: 1 min. 7.8 sec. Winning team: Gore, F., Willis, J. D., Deuchar, M. A. W., Holliday, M. F.

CLASS I

- 100 Yards [Record (1951): 10.6 sec.]—1. Ackrell, B. A. C. (G); 2. Cullimore, D. (G); 3. Holness, S. F. (He); 4. Groome, R. P. (M). Time: 11.0 sec.
 220 Yards [Record (1951): 23.75 sec.]—1. Cullimore, D. (G); 2. Ackrell, B. A. C. (G); 3. Holness, S. F. (He); 4. Groome, R. P. (M). Time: 24.15 sec.
 440 Yards [Record (1951): 55.6 sec.]—1. Cullimore, D. (G); 2. Holness, S. F. (He); 3. Birnage, W. H. (Ha); 4. Delaney, D. E. (Ha). Time: 55.4 sec. NEW RECORD.

- 880 Yards [Record (1949): 2 min. 9.5 sec.]—1. Cullimore, D. (G); 2. Faulkner, R. E. (G); 3. Holness, S. F. (He); 4. Stroud, A. G. (M). Time: 2 min. 17.3 sec.
 Mile [Record (1949): 4 min. 50.3 sec.]—1. Cullimore, D. (G); 2. Gale, J. C. C. (Ha); 3. Delaney, D. E. (Ha); 4. Faulkner, R. E. (G). Time: 4 min. 54.05 sec.
 Long Jump [Record (1944): 20ft. 10in.]—1. Cullimore, D. (G); 2. Painter, A. S. (G); 3. Faulkner, R. E. (G); 4. Holness, S. F. (He). Distance: 19ft. 0½in.
 High Jump [Record (1937): 5ft. 6in.]—1. Painter, A. S. (G); 2. Weatherhead, C. R. (Ha), Birnage, W. H. (Ha); 4. Cullimore, D. (G). Height: 5ft.
 Throwing the Javelin [Record (1951): 153ft. 3½in.]—1. Jones, D. C. (G); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Painter, A. S. (G); 4. Thorp, B. (Ha). Distance: 153ft. 1½in.
 Throwing the Discus [Record (1953): 108ft. 3in.]—1. Barnes, J. (M); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Bevan, E. V. (Ha); 4. Thorp, B. (Ha). Distance: 104ft. 6in. NEW RECORD, Bevan, E. V., 114ft. 9in. in eliminations.
 Putting the Shot [Record (1943): 50ft. 10in.]—1. Bevan, E. V. (Ha); 2. Cullimore, D. (G); 3. Cleverley, B. (He), Weatherhead, C. (Ha). Distance: 48ft. 1½in.
 Throwing the Cricket Ball [Record (1953): 96yds. 2ft.]—1. Jones, D. C. (G); 2. Cleverley, B. (He); 3. Overton, A. A. (Ha); 4. Cullimore, D. (G). Distance: 96yds. 2ft. 7in. NEW RECORD.
 Relay—1. Gray, 2. Herschel, 3. Milton, 4. Hampden. Time: 1 min. 21 sec. Winning team: Faulkner, R. E., Ackrell, B. A. C., Gillmore, D., Mansfield, J. A.

OPEN EVENT

- Mile Handicap [Record (1953): 4 min. 56.5 sec.]—1. Head, M. S.; 2. Gale, J. (4 min. 55.9 sec.) NEW RECORD (from scratch); 3. Thomas, D. Time: 4 min. 40.2 sec.
 HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP (Head Master's Cup)—1. Gray, 208; 2. Herschel, 192½; 3. Milton, 157½; 4. Hampden, 155.
 INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP (CLASS I) (Johnson Cup)—1. Cullimore, D. (G) 33 pts.; 2. Holness, S. F. (He), Painter, A. S. (G), Cleverley, B. (He), 10 pts.
 HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED FOR HOUSE (CLASS II) (Smith Cup)—1. Deuchar, M. A. W. (M), Memmott, A. C. (He), 28 pts.; 3. Willis, J. D. (M), 24 pts.; 4. Thomas, B. A. (He), 22 pts.
 HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED FOR HOUSE (CLASS III) (Steil Cup)—1. Jeffries, J. D. (He), 18 pts.; 2. Deuchar, A. B. M. (M), Freer, J. A. (Ha), 14 pts.; 4. Thomas, R. H. (He), 13 pts.

District Sports, 1954

- 11-13 years: High Jump—1st, F. M. Holliday (4ft. 5in.).
 13-15 years: 220 Yards—1st, M. Deuchar (26.8 sec.); 3rd, D. Draper.
 440 Yards—1st, M. Deuchar (60.2 sec.); 2nd, J. Willis.
 Long Jump—2nd, A. Memmott (15ft. 1½in.), also 2nd in Shot.
 Javelin—2nd, J. Pywell (111ft. 1½in.).
 Relay Team: 1st —Deuchar, Willis, Draper, Memmott. (The team won the cup for their age group.)
 15-17 years: 220 Yards—3rd, S. Watson.
 440 Yards—3rd, P. Wynn-Jones.
 880 Yards—1st, S. Watson (2 min. 13.7 sec.); 3rd, B. Richardson.
 Mile—1st, D. Delaney (5 min. 4.3 sec.); 3rd, M. Gillham.
 High Jump—1st, J. Morgan (5ft. 2in.); 2nd, J. Little.
 Long Jump—1st, D. Daly (16ft. 5½in.); 2nd, J. Morgan.
 Shot—1st, E. Bevan (37ft. 3½in.); 2nd, B. Thorp.
 Discus—1st, E. Bevan (135ft. 11in.) [RECORD]; 2nd, B. Cleverley.
 Javelin—2nd, B. Chase (146ft. 9in.); 3rd, B. Cleverley.
 Relay Team: 2nd—Delaney, Chase, Walton, Watson. (The team won the cup for their age group.)

Gymnasts at Eton

THERE IS NOW a very sound reason for the continuance of gymnastic relations between ourselves and Eton College; this is that, in the past two matches between Eton and Slough, the score now stands at one each. In 1953 we were beaten by a narrow margin, but on Thursday, 25th March, 1954, we once again visited the Eton gymnasium, this time to win the match by 274 points to 264.

This year, the writer attended the function, not as a competitor, but as an observer, and was thus able to assess the situation from a more general standpoint than in his previous position. The college gymnasium is far larger and more lofty than ours, and at one end it possesses a gallery, which slowly filled with Etonian spectators. Opening exercises performed upon the ropes were accompanied by a certain tenseness on the part of both competitors and spectators, and as the contest progressed there was little relief, for both teams appeared uncomfortably equal, and the impassive faces of the two Guardsman judges gave no indication of which team was leading. With the progression from ropes to beam, beam to mat, and mat to vaulting box, the difficulty of the exercises increased and the tenseness of the spectators now manifested itself in the form of well-deserved applause for the neat execution of difficult exercises. The last of the exercises on the vaulting box having been completed, the judges adjourned to count the points, and returned to announce to a highly elated Grammar School team that they were the victors. This news was followed by short speeches of mutual congratulation and desires for the future progress of both teams by the two captains.

The function was not at an end, however, for now we were escorted to a local tea-house and there entertained to a tea fully sufficient to renew our lost calories and, in the fine old English tradition, the tea removed all barriers of shyness between the competitors, and at the close of the meal we left Eton and the Etonians, having learnt much of the customs of Eton College and the outlook of its pupils.

Those who cavorted and contorted their bodies at Eton were A. Painter, J. Ebbage, Cleverley, O'Brien, Thorpe, Orton, Jupp, and R. Henry. Of these, special mention must be made of Painter, our captain, for his excellent example and handling of the team, and Henry, who, although he was the youngest member of the team and participating in his first contest, gained the maximum number of points for our team. To the rest of the team, congratulations on proving that there are places where we can rival the best institutions of the country.

R. E. FAULKNER (UVI).

Cricket, 1954

Captain: L. J. Goldfine; *Vice-Captain:* B. A. C. Ackrell.

Team: L. Goldfine, B. Ackrell, R. Gale, D. C. Jones, J. C. C. Gale, W. J. Hines, I. Jordan, G. Parkes, K. Hall, M. Gillham, A. Reade, A. Rackstraw, M. Askew.

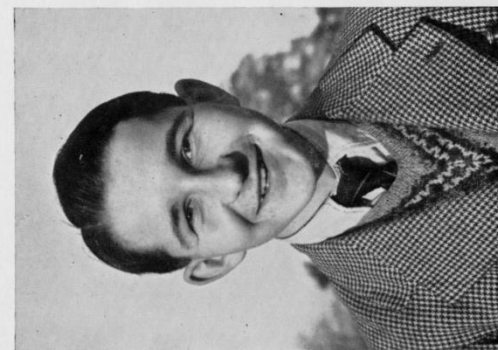
THE FIRST ELEVEN has made a good start to the season, winning four and drawing one of the six matches played. In the batting, Ackrell has been outstanding, and Parkes and Jordan have shown promise. As seen from the results below, Goldfine, Jones, and Gale, R., have borne the brunt of the bowling. The fielding has improved as the matches have progressed.

Results to date: v. Wycombe R.G.S., draw—Wycombe 96-8 (Jones 5-30), School 64-4 (Ackrell 34, Gale, J., 19*); v. Sir Wm. Borlase School, Marlow, won by 1 wicket—Marlow 36 (Gale, R., 5-20), School 37-9; v. Ashford G.S., won by 2 wickets—Ashford 74 (Goldfine 5-29), School 75-8 (Ackrell 53*); v. Wycombe R.G.S., lost by 36 runs—Wycombe 111, School 75 (Jordan 16); v. Maidenhead (rained off); v. Windsor C.B.S., won by 50 runs—School 106 (Gale, R., 30, Rackstraw 19, Hines 20), Windsor 56 (Goldfine 7-13); v. Henley C.S., won by 6 wickets—Henley 48 (Jones 5-27, Goldfine 4-15), School 49-4 (Ackrell 30).

* Indicates not out.



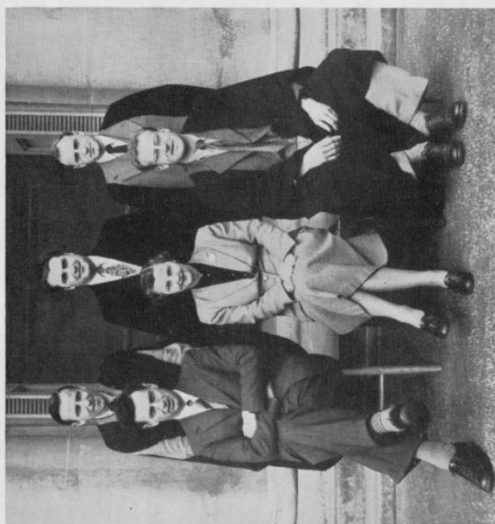
1st XI
Back 1. to r.—B. Pulford, L. Glenville, M. Gillham, B. Garner, K. Hall, W. Birnage, A. Bradbury, G. Witchell, D. Jones, F. Jordan, B. Ackrell, R. Gale (capt.), J. C. C. Gale, W. Hines.



B. J. CLIMER
Awarded Royal Scholarship to Imperial College, London, 1954
[Photographs by D. J. WHITE (UVI)]



Mr. R. SAUNDERS
Master of Ceremonies — School Dance
Christmas 1953
[Photographs by D. J. WHITE (U.V.T.)]



THE NEW STAFF
Mr. G. F. Somers, Mr. J. Laud, Mr. B. D. Greenslade,
Mr. K. F. Colombo, Mrs. M. J. Kemp (Secretary),
Mr. B. A. A. Knight.

Cross-Country

THIS YEAR, the normally forbidding sport of cross-country racing must have appeared even more forbidding than usual, for its aspirants were fewer than the normal minimum that the School produces. The fidelity of the few, however, enabled us to field a complete team whenever a match was arranged, and thus, on no less than three occasions, eight spartans of the Senior School raced their way around either Mr. Cornish's fields and the household garbage of Slough, or the recreation ground and back streets of Hillingdon. It is sad to relate that, after the team's opening victory over Bishopshalt School, Uxbridge, our visions of future success were sadly disillusioned by convincing defeats by the giants of Wycombe Royal Grammar School and a much improved Bishopshalt team. In spite of this, the team felt that, had circumstances been such that the fixture against the Watford second team and the triangular fixture between Wycombe, Bishopshalt and ourselves could have been held, we might have concluded the season with three victories resulting from the five matches.

A notable absence in the cross-country calendar this year was the Annual School Championships; it is hoped that this is not an indication that cross-country is losing its official status, for surely, in a school that boasts five hundred pupils, there must be at least a dozen who are keen enough to rekindle a dying flame. The faithful few, perhaps the kindling draught, included R. E. Faulkner, S. F. Holness, J. Mansfield, A. G. Stroud, G. H. Baron, R. Wood, Knowes, B. Richardson, and D. Delaney.

R. E. FAULKNER (U.V.T.)

Hockey

RESULTS: v. Slough Police, won 6-1; v. Ranelagh School, Bracknell, lost 3-1; v. Windsor Grammar School, lost 7-1; v. Ranelagh School, Bracknell, lost 3-0; v. Strodes School, Egham, lost 3-2; v. Windsor Grammar School, drew 1-1; v. Wycombe Technical School, lost 4-3; v. Wycombe Technical School, won 3-1; v. Wycombe Royal Grammar School, drew 1-1; v. Old Paludians 2nd XI, lost 3-1; v. Maidenhead C.B.S., drew 1-1. Goals for 20; against 28.

Team: R. Faulkner (captain), S. F. Holness (vice-captain), W. Birnage, B. Ackrell, W. Elwell, R. Gale, M. Askew, S. Cutts, R. Groome, E. Rayner, J. Osborne, F. Barnes, R. York, J. Lewis, L. Goldfine, W. Bradshaw, M. Deuchar, S. Hyde.

Altogether, eighteen people turned out for the First Hockey Eleven this season. Under the leadership of R. Faulkner, this year's team, although it did not achieve wonders, played far better than any hockey team in recent years. The season started off very well with a win by 6-1 over Slough Police. However, we settled down to a run of four defeats, which was followed by a draw with Windsor—our best achievement of the season. The team got a little better as the season went on. As many of the old guard are leaving, next year's team must practice hard if they are going to maintain the improvement which this year's eleven have shown.

The Fourth Forms had the chance to play hockey in their games period this year, and two members of this group of forms—M. Deuchar and S. Hyde—made their way to the First Eleven. F. Holness showed plenty of dash and enthusiasm, which made up for a lack of the finer points, Rayner was always solid in defence, and so was Groome. R. Faulkner and J. Osborne were outstanding in the forward line. The left wing was always troublesome, and it was not until the last match that J. Lewis came in and played a good game in that position. The Second Eleven, in their only game, defeated Maidenhead 4-3. We would like to express our thanks to the Old Paludians for giving our players match practice with their 2nd and 3rd XI's. Six of our players turned out with the "Old Pals" last season. More players from the School would be welcomed by the "Old Pals". Next year's fixture list is imposing, so, with plenty of practice and good luck, I look forward to writing an even more cheerful report next season.

W. BRADSHAW, (U.V.T.)

A School Anthology

The Other Africa

EDUCATED AFRICANS often complain that people in Britain are given a badly distorted picture of life in Africa, both in films and in newspapers. Too many of the films, they say, portray the African as a savage, or as a servant respectfully waiting on the white *bwana*, the constant prey of wild animals, most of which are as unfamiliar to the African filmgoers of Kampala or Nairobi as they are to those of Birmingham. Wouldn't people in Britain, they say, be interested in films about us as we really are? Must they have all these animals and war-dances? And are we news only when we are troublesome? Some of the answers to these questions are controversial, but it is plain enough that we have to part company with the film producers if we are really to know something of what is going on west of Zanzibar.

Those who are concerned with African education are well placed to observe this other Africa, for Africans everywhere are clamouring for more and better education—at least that is so in East Africa. Fifty years ago, there were no schools. Now the African schoolboy is a familiar figure, even in some of the remoter parts, walking barefoot to his village school along red-dust roads or bush-paths. Eighty per cent. of the boys of Uganda go to school, if only for two or three years; this is a remarkable proportion when it is realised that there is no free education in East Africa. Every boy has to find the fees if he wants schooling, and even when grants are available from the local African District Council, the struggle can be a hard one for a boy whose father's cash income may be less than £5 a month.

The first stage in a boy's education is the six-year Primary course, given largely in his own language, or in one close to it. Most boys do not get beyond this level of education, or even so far. For the boy who is one of the fortunate few who reach the Secondary Schools, the transformation that takes place in his life and prospects is of tremendous significance. If he stays the course, he may take the Cambridge Overseas School Certificate; if he obtains a credit in English he may win one of the keenly-contested places at the University College of East Africa, Makerere College, where he may take a degree in Arts or Sciences, or qualify in medicine. At that level he will be certain of a position of great responsibility and influence in his community. Other Secondary boys go on to Technical Schools and Government Schools of Forestry, Surveying, Agriculture and Veterinary Science, and so on, or obtain junior administrative posts in local or central government. It is no wonder that, where so much remains to be done in these vast undeveloped territories, the schools are regarded by most of the native inhabitants as amongst their most valuable possessions.

Life in some of these African schools, with their great shady mango trees and flaming jacarandas, can be extraordinarily pleasant. One school, perhaps, has a sweeping view from its hilltop over Lake Victoria; another shelters beneath the towering snow-clad Ruwenzori Mountains, cool and wet at 6,000 feet; a third looks across the Kikuyu reserve to the forests of the Aberdares. But they are also very busy places. A parent of a typical pupil may be a peasant, farming a small-holding of cotton or coffee, maize or sweet potatoes, perhaps completely illiterate, almost certainly without any English. His son, by contrast, lives in a boarding school, receiving all his teaching in English, learning Mathematics and Biology, Geography and History, and other subjects too. He learns European music, and at the same time takes part in an opera on a traditional African theme, scored for drums, flutes, and the African harp. He paints and models, acts in plays, takes part in athletics and boxing, and in every spare moment plays football (in bare feet). The sudden widening of the possibilities of life sometimes produces a premature contempt for traditional ways and attitudes. But more often the ties remain strong, and the family will gather friends from miles around to celebrate, with feasting and dancing, the homecoming of the successful son, who is going to work for the progress of "his people".

Nothing is achieved in Africa, of course, without a persistent struggle against local circumstances. Schools are often poorly equipped with books and apparatus, and the teaching can be dull and unenterprising. A long history of malnutrition and disease has to be combatted; racial suspicions and conflicts may produce repercussions in the classroom. As always, real efficiency is difficult to achieve on the Equator, whatever your colour. Yet with the passing of the old tribal Africa, the future well-being of the people depends increasingly on the schools. The same is true of relations between the Europeans and the African peoples. A boy who reaches the upper levels of the Secondary Schools, and finds there European masters whom he can trust and work with, will be the better for that experience when he takes his political judgment and aspirations into the harsher world outside. And at the top of the educational ladder, at the University College of Makerere, from which the future political leaders of East Africa are bound to come, there are better relations between Africans and Europeans than can be found anywhere else in East Africa; conditions of real mutual regard based on the common ground of learning. In this respect, 1954 is a notable year for East Africa and, as it happens, the fact is fittingly mentioned in these pages. For from a Slough Secondary School has come to the College the first white student, a girl, now settled in Uganda with her parents. She will study for a degree on terms of absolute equality with her fellow undergraduates, who are all black, or brown. At the same time, three Kikuyu girls have arrived from Kenya, the first girls of their tribe to embark on a Makerere degree course, although Kikuyu men students have for long formed one of the biggest tribal groups in the College. A girl from Slough and a girl from the Kikuyu reserve may not appear to have much in common, but they will soon discover how wrong assumptions of that sort are. On these small beginnings, and on the efforts of all the obscure little schools which lie behind them, much of the future of East African civilisation depends.

B. D. GREENSLADE.

Aix-en-Provence

CHERS AMIS,

Lorsque vous m'avez demandé d'écrire dans votre magazine, je vous avais fait part de mon intention de rédiger une courte histoire de la Provence. Mais après mûre réflexion, j'ai pensé qu'il serait préférable de venir vous raconter ici l'histoire de sa capitale, Aix-en-Provence, petite ville, qui, comme son nom l'indique, au cœur de la Provence, est une ville riche en souvenirs historiques et dont la beauté et l'élégance de ses vieux hôtels, le murmure de ses fontaines séduisent depuis toujours l'œil de ses nombreux visiteurs.

Quelques 150 ans avant l'avènement du Christ le pays était occupé par les Salyens qui vivaient paisiblement du travail de leur terre. Puis commença la conquête romaine, et en l'an 123 B.C. le proconsul Sextius Calvinus après avoir défait les populations autochtones vint établir un camp retranché non loin de l'emplacement actuel de la ville où surgissaient de nombreuses sources thermales, afin que ses légions puissent se reposer tout en surveillant ceux qu'elles venaient d'asservir. C'est ainsi que naissait le premier établissement romain en Gaule dont le nom "Aquae Sextiae" devait donner plus tard, suivant l'évolution phonétique normale, l'appellation actuelle de la ville: Aix.

En l'an 102 B.C., donc exactement 21 ans plus tard un autre proconsul, Marius, vint s'établir à Aix après avoir écrasé les Cimbres et les Teutons aux pieds de la montagne Sainte-Victoire, dans la région actuelle de Pourrière. Ayant adopté la ville comme résidence permanente, il l'a dota de magnifiques monuments et d'aqueducs, car la population de la ville augmentait et les bœufs en eaux se faisaient sentir, surtout dans les campagnes.

Devenue ainsi une colonie de l'Empire Romain, la ville fut élevée au rang de capitale de la Gaule. Narbonnaise et désormais vécut un ère de prospérité. De riches Romains se firent construire des palais, firent construire des temples, des arènes et un amphithéâtre. De nombreux aqueducs y déversèrent leurs eaux limpides captées parfois très loin de là.

Mais avec la décadence de l'Empire Romain, Aix devenait la proie des Bourguignons et des Visigoths qui la saccagèrent au cinquième siècle, puis ce furent les Lombards au sixième siècle, puis enfin les Sarrasins en 731. Mais Aix se releva de ses ruines encore bourdonnantes des cris de ces barbares pour devenir la capitale.

C'est alors qu'elle connut une nouvelle ère de prospérité sous le gouvernement des Comtes de la Maison d'Anjou dont le plus célèbre fut le bon Roi René, René d'Anjou (1409-80).

Homme cultivé, il fut un grand protecteur des Arts et des Lettres, secondé par sa femme, Jeanne de Laval. Son nom demeura impérissable ainsi que le souvenir de son œuvre accomplie.

Jusque-là indépendante, la Provence fut définitivement rattachée à la France en 1841. Mais elle allait connaître d'autres revers. Elle fut d'abord ruinée par le connétable de Bourbon qui fit démanteler la place en 1524 et quelques années plus tard en 1536, elle fut ravagée et pillée par Charles-Quint qui s'était fait couronner roi d'Arles et comte de Provence. Mais les guerres de religions vinrent augmenter la misère qui régnait depuis 1524, et malgré cela la ville résista d'une façon héroïque contre le duc d'Epemnon qui assiégeait la ville en 1593. Fiers de leur ville, les habitants matelassèrent, dit-on, le cloches de leur cathédral Saint-Saveur afin de le protéger des boulets de canons.

Ensuite ce furent les épidémies de peste qui désolèrent la ville et dont la plus célèbre fut celle de 1720 durant laquelle moururent plus de 8,000 personnes en l'espace de quelques semaines.

Revenons à présent quelque peu en arrière. Au moment des invasions barbares Aix était la Métropole d'un Archidiocèse et l'est restée depuis. Elle fut dotée d'un Université au XV^{me} siècle et demeura ville Universitaire depuis lors. D'autrepart, malgré son rattachement à la France, Aix fut capitale de la Province du XIII^{me} siècle jusqu'en 1790, c'est à dire jusqu'à la révolution française où les Provinces furent abolies. Entre temps Aix posséda un Parlement fameux de 1501 à 1790, et pratiquait en quelque sorte la politique d'un état ayant les status de "Dominion".

Malgré les diverses calamités dont elle eut à souffrir la ville subit de nombreux agrandissements et embellissements. Aix, en effet, renferme des trésors de toute sorte dont elle s'est enrichie au cours de son histoire.

De l'occupation romaine demeurent quelques vestiges des parterres de maisons, colonnades, statues, poteries le tracé de la voie Appienne, quelques arches d'acpiédus, faisant abstraction ici des autres régions de la Provence. Au moyen âge, elle fut dotée de sa cathédrale au style romain et gothique, et qui possède un des plus vieux baptistères en France, datant du V^{me} siècle, ainsi qu'un magnifique cloître de X^{me} siècle. A l'extérieur un grand porche en gothique flamboyant encadre des portes en noyer massif sculptées. A l'intérieur elle possède le célèbre tryptique du "Buisson Ardent" par Nicholas Froment, et une collection de tapisseries de Bruxelles du XV^{me} siècle, appartenant autrefois à la cathédrale de Canterbury.

Puis au XVII^{me} siècle elle s'en richissait de l'église de Sainte Madeleine où se trouvent le superbe tryptique de l'Annonciation (1443), ainsi qu'un chef d'œuvre de l'art primitif provençal.

Mais c'est surtout au cours du XVII^{me} siècle et du XVIII^{me} siècle qu'Aix a pris cet aspect de sobre magnificence qui frappe tout. C'est en effet durant cette période que furent construites ces vieilles demeures qui séduisent par le charme de leur architecture, l'élégance de leurs façades, et la richesse de leurs portes sculptées, tels que l'Hôtel d'Abertas, l'Hôtel d'Estienne de Saint Jean, par Pierre Puget, l'ancien Palais d'Archerché qui renferme une précieuse collection de tapisseries et dont la cour intérieure est transformée chaque année en un théâtre en plein air où se tient le Festival International de Musique Mozart, l'Hôtel Lestang-Parade, Fourbin, d'Arband où siège l'honorable Académie d'Aix, et qui renferme de nombreuses et très belles collections de toute sorte, enfin l'Hôtel d'Orves et Boisgelin et bien d'autres encore.

En 1840, Aix fut dotée d'une Ecole National d'Ingénieurs Arts et Métiers (E.N.I.A.M.); il n'y en a que six dans toute la France et leur renom est connu du monde entier. Aix possède enfin un Lycée, le Lycée Mignet; en souvenir

du peintre ce nom lui fut donné. Il prépare aux différentes Facultés, de Lettres, de Droit, de Sciences. D'autrepart d'eux collèges techniques préparatoires à l'E.N.I.A.M., un conservatoire national de musique et une Ecole des Beaux-Arts.

Mais Aix est aussi la ville de grands hommes comme Mirabeau, Vanvenargues, Mistral, Paul Cézanne, et enfin d'un homme à qui nous devons beaucoup en Provence pour avoir perpétué les traditions Provençales, Marcel Provence, dont je salue ici la mémoire.

Et pour terminer cette déjà longue histoire, nous dirons qu'Aix est aussi, malgré ses vieilles rues étroites moyenâgeuses, une ville aux belles perspectives, aux promenades ombragées, aux fontaines dont le doux murmure de leurs eaux claires et limpides charment l'oreille du promeneur et dont la présence répand une agréable fraîcheur.

"Aix, ville d'Arts, ville d'Eau, ville de contact entre le royaume du Mistral et le royaume du Soleil, entre la mer et les Alpes, entre les larges plaines issues de la Durance et du Rhône et les bassins bordés d'escarpements alpestres: à la croisée des Routes du Rhône à l'Italie, et de la mer aux Alpes, Aix capitale née de la Provence qui demeure et demeurera toujours ainsi au cœur de tous les vrais Provençaux."

(Hôtel — Mansion)

J.L.

Extase, par Victor Hugo

(i)

On wave-washed shore alone I stood; night's starlit vale
Unfleck'd by fleecy cloud, the sea by vessel's sail.
Beyond reality, intense, unseeing gaz'd my eyes.
And woods, all nature's form, mounts of stone
Seem'd turned to question in a murmuring tone
The surge of oceans, lights of skies.

Heaven's golden stars, legions without end
Aloud, subdued, fused in a myriad bend
Acclaim, as low they bow fire-crown'd nebulae;
Ungovernable waves of blue, beyond arrest
Proclaim with curtsying of foam-gild'd crest
—"This is our God, the Almighty!"

Translated by W. J. SIMMONS (UVI).

(ii)

A starry night,
Alone I stand on the shore;
A cloudless height,
No sail and nothing more —
My eyes penetrate the world beyond —
Woods, mountains, nature seem to question,
The waves of the sea, the stars of Zion.

The golden clusters,
An infinite choir,
Raise myriad voices,
Tilt crowns of fire;
And the turbulent blue waves,
Say as they twist their foamy crests —
It is the master, God our Lord.

Translated by W. P. BRADSHAW (UVI).

Portrait in Porcelain

(A translation of Théophile Gautier's "Chinoiserie" by J. Lewis)

Sweet lady, 'tis not you that fires my heart,
Ophelia nor Juliet I adore,
Not flaxen Laura, spark of Petrarch's art,
Nor Beatrix whom Danté knelt before.

For in a tower of finest porcelain,
Serene and heeding not the flight of time,
My love with aged parents has domain
By pallid stream in oriental clime.

Her eyes sweep up, caressing her black hair,
Each tiny foot within a hand could dwell,
Her skin is clearest copper, yet more fair,
Each finger tipped with slender carmine shell.

A wooden trellis is her portrait's frame,
While swallows fly down one touch to beseech,
At evening, with a beauty poets claim,
She sings of willow and the blossoming peach.

Attack

ONE LONELY, wind-swept winter's evening, the elm trees stretching endlessly into the gloomy twilight, numerous greatcoat-clad figures waited, tense and motionless. Huddled closely together to shelter from the rain, the assailants stared far into the darkness. Suddenly the dimmed lights of their goal, a great fortress, loomed towards them. One by one the attackers edged closer. Then, as the fort came nearer, they charged. All was forgotten as a mass of bodies swept forward to attack the monstrous, moving structure.

Alone at the entrance of his stronghold, the camp second-in-command stood firm, cutting, chopping at the seething horde of screaming men with his bludgeon-like weapon. His harsh and blood-curdling war-cries rose above the noise of battle. Just when the assailants were gaining the upper hand, a dangerous rear offensive threatened. The mighty green-clad camp commander had left his reinforced cabin to attack his unsuspecting enemy from the rear. Undaunted by this disastrous blow, the mass shouted and screamed even more, whirling their weapons, producing mortal blows at any sign of defence. Then the front lines broke through the defences and streamed towards the higher parts of the fortress. Everyone suddenly surged forward. The uninitiated and the hesitating were pushed forward into the fray. The occupants of the fort were at the mercy of the screaming horde. The camp commander had fled back to the safety of his cabin, and now gazed anxiously at the battle. Victory!! Each man pushed his companions in an effort to gain the greater spoils. All that could be seen was a mass of victors, ransacking, tearing, ripping, pulling, pushing, punching, kicking, shouting, and screaming. The noise rose to a crescendo. Then — peace!

The battlefield steamed with the heat of the past battle. Bodies of the wounded were strewn everywhere as the rain swept the dismal scene. The vanquished bus-conductor shamefacedly rang the bell, and the bus pulled away from the stop loaded with some sixty victorious Grammar School boys.

L. GLANVILLE (LVI).

Artist? Scientist? Roadsweeper?

WHEN ONE ENTERS the Sixth Form of such a school as this, it is necessary to choose between the study of the arts and that of the sciences. This choice, it must be remembered, affects the course of one's life, not for two, three, ten, or twenty years, but for the whole duration of it upon earth. I chose my path nearly three years ago and, on the whole, I am glad to be studying literature and language (in spite of the inevitable dubbing—"an arty type").

There are, of course, one or two reasons why I might have decided to study science—the main one being apprehension of the future, regarding a career. The boffins generally know quite definitely what sort of occupation they will take up when they have acquired their qualifications, whereas we, it seems, are without exception destined to be civil servants, teachers, or bank clerks.

Why, however, am I glad to be an artist? One of the romantic poets, I do not remember which, had the answer in a nutshell when he said that all the beauty had been taken out of the rainbow when they divided it up into its various colours. As a phenomenon of Nature, a manifestation of natural beauty, of God perhaps, or of the "celestial light, the glory and the freshness of a dream", as Wordsworth had it, it is a delight to behold. As a weird physical reaction of light rays it is interesting only so far as knowledge of such a thing is worth having.

Many people will naturally reply that the comprehension, and thus appreciation, of things increases as does the scientific understanding of them. For an instance, they usually give some such form of art as sculpture, painting, or music. But for a person who, in his own mind, is passionately fond of music, for example, yet who does not know the difference between a clarinet and a tuba, will the structural understanding of music make it a source of greater appreciation and enjoyment? Some will say "Certainly"; but I say that the satisfaction, the emotional uplift, perhaps the feeling of the music, is no less in the stages of ignorance of major scales than it is in the complete mental understanding of one of Beethoven's most complicated masterpieces. An example from my own experience: when I first heard the serenade *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, by Mozart, I thoroughly enjoyed it, but the knowledge I have gained since then of the instruments, harmony, and so on, has increased my appreciation of the work only so far as the word means understanding, yet I do not believe the pleasure I derive from it has been enhanced by this knowledge.

To look at something through the eyes of a scientist and to automatically decompose it into its molecules, atoms, and what have you, must be very depressing. If it is so for me, with my relatively scanty scientific knowledge, it must result in utter misery for those highly specialised people. It is all very well for it to be said that doctors have a sense of calling to their work, which is absorbingly interesting, but it must be most difficult for them to see a person as a person, as a character, as an individual, instead of as a complexity of microscopic cells working on the same lines as an automatic telephone exchange.

As a reply, it is often brought forward that the quest for knowledge, which in this disrupted world has developed into a mad race for explosive power, is the goal of all scientists. For them perfection is ultimate knowledge. Beauty is becoming less and less mysterious and, as far as I can see, less beautiful. The beauty of a poem is lost when it is broken up with grammatical analysis, the beauty of a piece of music is lost when it is broken up into bars for examination; the beauty of a bird is lost when it is understood as a mass of cells.

How wonderful, therefore, how happy and how exhilarating life must be in ignorance of all these things. If it were not for the fact that I do not think my constitution would grant me happiness in poverty, I would like to be either the roadsweeper who wishes me a cheery "Good morning!" each day, or Corin, the shepherd in *As You Like It*, whose philosophy was "that the property of rain is to wet, and fire to burn; . . . and that a great cause of the night is lack of the sun".

R. A. GLANVILLE (UVI).

The Chuckling Sands

THE SUN WAS SETTING in a red splendour when he looked at his watch. "Time to be going," he muttered. He turned round to the boat which he had left moored some way back. A cry of horror escaped from him. It was gone! What should he do? He gazed round and he saw the boat bobbing on the first ripples of the incoming tide. "The tide!" he thought.

"Help," he screamed. The sound laughed back at him, echoing over the water. Now he could hear the tide coming in. The sands began to heave and sway beneath his feet. A sucking and a groaning sound issued from it. Panic seized him. He retreated from the line of little wavelets that swilled around his ankles. He had to keep moving now. The sands seemed to clutch at his ankle with tiny hands. He half-ran, half-stumbled towards one of the distant light pylons which warned shipping. At last he reached some sand out of reach of the incoming tide. He stood here panting for breath. The gulls wheeled and screamed around his head. The water lapped at his ankles again. He gathered his wits and turned to carry on his flight. Then, to his horror, he found he was stuck. He was in the inescapable grip of quicksands!

He struggled and shouted—but in vain. He was sunk to his chest, the sand gurgling around him. He waved his arms frantically, shouting all the time. Then an answering shout of "Hold on!" floated across the water. The little wavelets now splashed his face and made him cough and choke. The sailors from the coastguard cutter, struggling along with ropes and a plank, arrived in time to see the man's hand give its last spasmodic shudder. Then it, too, sank out of sight and the sands sealed over him.

"Too bad, Bill," said one. They struggled back through the deepening waters. The chug of the engine died away in the distance in the gathering gloom. The pylon beam swung over the water. The only sound was the chuckling sand.

D. MORRIS (4A).

Why? - The Christian Ministry

"making it my ambition to preach the gospel . . . (so that) They shall see who have never been told of him, and they shall understand who have never heard of him." Rom. xv 20, 21.

I WAS NOT a drunkard, sunk in vice, who heard the call and was converted, nor am I an intellectual who "saw the light". Instead, I have been nursed in the Christian faith from childhood by those who knew Christ better than I, until such a time as I was obliged to own that Jesus Christ had a claim on my life. Then I dedicated my life to His service and, so I believe, He consecrated my life to the same end.

Now every true Christian has taken a similar step, but not every Christian is called upon to enter the ministry. Yet I am convinced that I have been called by God to this task.

"How do I know?" has been a difficult question to answer, and I am sure will continue to be so when it comes to facing those college selection boards of "Revs." and "Profs." whose reputed power to lay bare must "out-McCarthy" Senator McCarthy's tribunal for enquiry into un-American activities, the emphasis not being on un-Christlike activities so much as on Christ-like ones.

In the same way that I slowly came to a point of surrender to the will of God in Jesus Christ, so slowly, I feel, has God been calling me to the ministry. I remember being heartbroken at one time before I entered Slough Grammar School because one of my friends roared with laughter (in the presence of his parents) at the thought of his driving an engine while I was "stuck in church singing psalms". His aspirations to engine-driving have long since faded, while mine to "singing psalms" have not yet come to fruition. Why, at that age I was prepared to confess an ecclesiastical bent, I can only now answer. I see it as one of God's indications of the path He has chosen for me. My call to the ministry has been an unsilenceable, inward compulsion. But, before we go any further, there is a legitimate question to be answered—"What is the Christian Ministry?"

Most decidedly it concerns the operation of the Church of Christ. The essential fellowship of Christians, their "togetherness", has been preserved by

units which are the local Churches. Geographically separate, they are yet spiritually one. Now the leadership in the conduct of spiritual affairs in the Church is given to those who are accepted by the Church as having the call of God to do this task. These are the ministers, and the work which they do is the work of the Church and is the "ministry".

It is difficult to avoid attributing an erroneous mantle of superiority to the minister. We are prone to think of him as a "full-time Christian" whereas, actually, Christianity is either "full-time" for minister and ministered, or else it is not the Christianity of Jesus Christ. In the organization of the Church the minister is indeed a leader, but he stands in God's sight with no special merit or distinction. The responsibility is great, but then only those who are confident that it is the will of God that summons and the strength of God that sustains, will have the boldness to undertake it.

Conviction is the keynote of the call. Personally, it is my conviction that the love of God is a force so real that, to enable us to participate in it, He sent Jesus Christ to become one of us and die, convicted by our sin. Furthermore, I know that the answer to all world problems lies ultimately in Jesus Christ.

Had I not this twofold conviction, I would turn my back upon the Christ, the Church, and its ministry.

W. J. SIMMONS (Upper VI).

2G

The Form I captain is 2G,
Inmates one and twenty-three.

Our habitat is in the huts
Where Mr. Sonnex proudly struts.

German he teaches us, and French,
Which often give our brains a wrench.
Linguisticly we are his pride,
He, our mentor, friend and guide.

Although, I fear, we sometimes fret
At all the homework we are set,
We yet find time to correspond
With German boys who live beyond

Essen, Düsseldorf, Koblenz,
Munster, Dortmund, Ruhr and Mainz,
Who help us thus to understand
Much more of their own Fatherland.

Yet happier far are visits planned
Between ourselves and the Fatherland.
For friendships made that way
May last for ever and for aye.

A little U.N.O. we may be,
But other subjects claim 2G—
English, Music, Maths and Gym,
To keep our minds and limbs in trim.

Albert and the Fish

When Albert used to go and fish,
He put his fish into a dish,
And every time he caught just one,
He pulled it out and said, "What fun!"
But now he has an easier time;
Instead of fishing with a line,
He takes a pump down to the stream
And, while the fish just lie and dream,
He puts into the stream the spout,
And pumpeth all the water out.

E. WALLNER—THE SIXTH FORM POET LAUREATE.

A Visit to Northern Germany

LAST SPRING, the Headmaster suggested that some of us might like to have an Exchange Holiday with some schoolboys from Schleswig-Holstein. I thought this a good idea, and was put in communication with a boy from Flensburg. This boy, Jürg Blümel, whom some of you met, as he attended school here on a few occasions, arrived in Slough early in July and stayed with me for a month. I showed him as much of the Country as I could, and I think he enjoyed his visit. He thought our school was most peculiar, "probably all right for English boys, but it would never do in Germany". Just what he meant by this I couldn't discover, as he did not particularise, but I suspect it was afternoon school of which he didn't approve. In Germany, school finishes at 1 p.m.

In August, I went with Jürg to spend a month in Schleswig-Holstein. The journey was long, taking about twenty-four hours, my only regret being that I could not leave the train when it stopped at some of the great cities of Northern Europe. Stops are for only two or three minutes on a trans-continental express.

We arrived at Flensburg early in the morning, and I found it is a busy port on a *förde* on the Baltic. The *förde* seems strange to me, as there are no tides and the sea has banks like those of the Thames. Flensburg is known as the Gateway to the North. There is a busy modern town and an historical old town above the docks. I was struck by the lack of rivers and trees in this part of Germany; the trees were felled for fuel during the war.

My complete ignorance of the language I found of little hindrance, as, if one speaks English loudly enough, slowly enough, and clearly enough, there is sure to be somebody within hearing distance only too eager to help. In this way one makes more acquaintances than if one were able to look after oneself.

I managed to see quite a lot of North Germany, and perhaps the loveliest part was the reclaimed land by HUSUM, on the North Sea. The islands are low lines on the sea with unreal-looking mounds here and there to hold barns, houses, and other buildings out of the flood in the event of the breaking of a dyke. Land reclamation is essential in Schleswig-Holstein, as the population has more than doubled with refugees from East Germany. Jürg was one of these. This is keeping the country poor, as there is not enough work for all, and people with work must give up much of their wages to feed the unemployed. Jürg's father, a hospital doctor, was giving a third of his salary to the pool.

Late in my holiday, I went on a coach trip to Lüneburg. On this trip we saw some of the Soviet Zone, the sides of the road guarded by grey-uniformed soldiers. In Lüneburg, a town through which we passed, penny-in-the-slot telescopes were arranged to look across this part of the frontier. Lüneburg is a medieval salt port, much of which was sacked years ago by a prince of Lübeck to discourage competition with his town.

Flensburg being on the south shore of the narrow Flensburg *förde*, it was an easy matter to take a bus or ferry into Denmark. I did this frequently; the chief attraction, as far as I was concerned, being the wonderful swimming pools and the ice-cream—a large dollop of frozen cream with strawberry jam and clotted cream; all in a brandy-snap cornet. Cost? Threepence! The attraction to the Germans is coffee. It is worth while crossing the frontier, buying two ounces of coffee, paying duty, and returning. The total cost of all this is less than the price of two ounces of German coffee.

My holiday came to an end all too soon, and I decided to break my journey home at Hamburg. I left my luggage at the station and booked in at a palatial Youth Hostel, which only cost me a shilling a day, including meals. Then I set out to see all I could. Hamburg is a large city, which is being reconstructed after heavy bombing. It is very varied in character, like many towns joined together. I visited the Zoo, the famous flower show, and took boat trips on the Elbe, which flows unspoiled through a series of parks: then around the docks, seeing the extensive bomb damage and reconstruction.

Next morning I joined the Trans-Scandinavian Express en route for England and home, well content after the best holiday I have ever had. I only hope that I shall have the opportunity for a similar one in the future.

N. HAMMANS (5L).

Winter

Moonlight shines on the snow
Above the solid grey-walled town.
Moonlight clear, ice-sharp
Picks clean the brooding mountain's bones.

The warmth of open door, straw window's beam
Radiates into the street
Where men of the hills, iron-bound feet
Come down to their food and love.

Above on the steel-crag's face
The snow in the knife-edge light
Lies deep, a sheet of feather-down:
Silent, still, waiting.

There is no sound high aloft
As soft sleep slides down to the town
In the cupped palm of the rocky world.
The lights go out; all is at rest.

Death lies dagger-raised in the silent night.

I. G. SIMMONS (LVI)

A Warning to the Would-be Pipe Smoker

I HAVE ALWAYS ENVIED the calm, knowledgeable disposition lent by a pipe to its smoker. In addition, each pipe imparts its own peculiar and attractive charm to the character of its nicotian, the serenity of the briar, the profundity of the meerschau. So I thought I would sample a pipe dream or two in the hope of assuming that mature and peaceful air. I bought a slender-stemmed briar with a dark, barrel-bowl, and an ounce of light, sweet-cut tobacco. With the bowl most carefully packed with baccy, not a strand too much or too little, I applied the match. The glowing threads twisted and curled, as though in the throes of some tortuous agony. Sucking vigorously (and, much to the consternation of my lungs, not exhaling quickly enough), I managed to get it drawing sweetly. I balanced the briar first in the left corner of my mouth, then tried it jutting, in a determined fashion, straight ahead; finally I settled for it sitting snugly on the right side. I leaned back, greedy to savour the aromatic vapours . . .

A thought occurred to me. Somebody had mentioned the fact that the beginner was inevitably sick the first time. Not at all; I could pride myself that I had proved the exception to that rule. The bowl glowed warm in my hand; the smoke wreathed and spiralled about me. Mustn't take it down, just palate the . . . subtle . . . fragrance . . . and . . . then g-e-n-t-l-y- . . . p-u-f-f . . .
— Ugh-t!

R. L. GALE (Upper VI).

Halcyon Days

The cloaked-black boredom's harbinger
Pads crepe-foot 'cross the ship-wood floor
As Nelson on his poop,
And gives forth on the stifled air
Words of erudition divine, supreme.

His pearly wisdom floats down
On ear-deaf youth of age
Indifferent.

He cannot raise
Enthusiasm.
All is lost.
We sleep.

IAN G. SIMMONS (LVI).

A Strange Fellow

There lived a man at Donnageal
 And very strange was he;
 And from his shack on cliff-top high
 He scanned the dark blue sea.
 With seagulls and with cormorants
 He lived secluded here;
 He never spoke to other folk
 Who often passed quite near.
 Sometimes on bright and sunny days
 On to the beach he went;
 He took his rod to catch some fish
 And hours down there he spent.
 When he reached his shack on cliff-top high,
 He cooked this tasty fish;
 He cooked it on an old oil-stove
 And ate his well-earned dish.
 But now, alas, he lies quite still
 In his last and only bed,
 And oft I think of that strange man
 And the hermit's life he led.

A. R. BOWERS (4L).

A la Camargue

C'était pendant mes grandes vacances
 Alors que je me trouvais en France,
 Que je vis ces oiseaux merveilleux,
 Aux jambes et aux becs si curieux,
 Cherchant, dans la boue, leur nourriture.
 Seul couché, moi aussi dans la boue
 Patiemment les regarder debout,
 Mirant leur plumage rouge et blanc dans l'eau.
 Combien ce spectacle était beau,
 Car mes regards ne pouvaient se détacher d'eux.
 Le disque d'or à l'ouest pâlisait,
 Les beaux oiseaux à présent se rassemblaient.
 Puis en un vol majestueux quittèrent la camargue
 Vers la chaude Afrique, se moquant de la vogue.
 C'était bien eux: Les flamands roses!

J. LITTLE (5L).

The Dying of the Year

This is the time when all the trees are bare
 And when the wind blows through your hair,
 When sheep are driven in from the hills
 And birds come to your window-sills.
 This is the time of frost and mist,
 Of evening hearth and friendly whist,
 The time when the swallow leaves
 Its summer home in timber eaves.
 A time of Christmas, snow and sleet,
 When snow to slush changes beneath the feet.
 Indeed, give praise to Winter-tide
 And on these things I'll let you bide.

C. DAVENPORT (2L).

JULY, 1954

Impressions of America

WHEN I WAS FIRST ASKED to write this article, I realised how difficult it was to cover such a broad topic. However, after scribbling a few notes, I decided to compare the American way of life with the British, in the hope that this would provide sufficient information about my trip to America last year, although it is difficult to take a fair cross-section of the people and their surroundings in such a large country.

Our party of cadets toured the State of Michigan, which is about three times as large as Great Britain. One might expect the extremes in the type of countryside in a state as large as Michigan, but in fact it is uniformly flat. The vegetation is as similar to that of Great Britain as the landscape is dissimilar. The main roads are invariably straight, while the roads in the suburbs of the small towns are usually hard-baked mud. There were countless "STOP" signs and as many speed limits. These speed limits are imposed because the straight roads, so ideally suited for speeding, would become extremely dangerous without them. I might add that the speed limits are enforced by RADAR-equipped police cars.

Wherever we went in the cities where civic welcomes and other ceremonies were laid on, we had an escort of armed police in cars or on motorcycles—both with screaming sirens. It was quite impressive, I must admit, but apparently quite necessary, since, once in the city's thoroughfares, it was quite easy to get stuck in a traffic-jam. This was the case in New York, Detroit, and Washington.

In all three, the most impressive features are the buildings and monuments. Although London is famed for monuments and ancient buildings, I cannot but believe that those of these three cities in particular surpass London's in their modern beauty, and as feats of engineering construction.

Washington is renowned for its beautiful white government buildings and its abundance of monuments. Here, there are no large factory chimneys to belch forth black, corroding smoke, as in Great Britain's cities. New York is just one mass of huge vertical constructions, all seemingly covered with flickering lights advertising some particular make of underwear. The shops stay open until about seven or eight in the evening, and it seems the drug stores never close. I was able to buy a roll of film at one o'clock in the morning at one store. Everybody appears to be up at midnight, but by half-past one everyone has disappeared. Detroit, being the centre of an industrial area, has buildings the same colour as many cities in Great Britain, but still retains a great deal with which to impress the visitor, by virtue of the size of its buildings.

America lacks the greatness of tradition which means so much to Great Britain. Instead, American building, for instance, betrays the tendency to modernism. The houses in Michigan are wooden, but very modern and painted white, single-storeyed, but with a large basement. They are centrally-heated and quite warm during winter, which incidentally is drier than ours. The standard of living is very high, but life is very hard for the average American, who has to put more individual effort into his daily life than the Briton. The American works hard and plays hard. He thinks quickly where the Briton tends to be slow and methodical. I found the American is quite afraid of Communism mainly because of its steady growth in Asiatic countries. During one discussion in Kalamazoo on Communism, one American was bombastic in his arguments. He deplored the British for helping Communist States to work against Western democracy. This led many Americans there to defend the British, and I think that the more Senator McCarthy continues as he is against Communism, the more resistance will he have to expect from the American people.

It seems a pity that so many British people have an unfounded bias against Americans, because really they are a friendly people and not to be judged by their inexperienced politicians. One cannot really form an opinion of America or Americans until one has been there. So perhaps mine is unbiassed—or is it?

S. CUTTS (Upper VI).